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FRIDAY MARCH 5 1982

Price twenty

Preview

The Burlington House and Chelsea antiques fairs are featured in today's 16-page *Preview*. There is also full coverage of the week's entertainment and a look at the new Barbican Centre.

Chief of CEGB vulnerable

A defiant attack on government criticism of nationalized industries was made yesterday by Mr Glyn England, chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board. Mr England's £44,000 a year position is vulnerable as Mr Nigel Lawson, Secretary of State for Energy, is thought to be working on a radical purge of the board's key personnel Page 15

Government defeated

The Government was defeated by four votes in the House of Lords last night before the Mental Health (Amendment) Bill completed its passage. A new clause imposing on health and social service authorities a duty to provide after care for those affected by the Bill was carried against Government advice by 83 votes to 79.

Smith party MPs resign



Seven Zimbabwe MPs have resigned from the white Republican Front Party led by Mr Ian Smith (above). They said some of the views in the party were totally opposed to their own Page 8

BR may lose mail contracts

The Post Office is considering switching some of its mail from British Rail to road and air transport after the disruption caused by the train drivers' strike. Post Office contracts were worth £49m to British Rail last year Page 15

Free abortions for French

France is to make abortion available under the national health system from September, in accordance with the election *promises of the Socialist Party*. The move, which extends the present limited facilities, is *bound to provoke an outcry*.

Britain rejects Polish ploy

Britain has told *Poland it will* refuse to accept internees forced into exile as a way of resolving the country's political problems. Only Polish citizens who genuinely wanted to leave would be admitted Page 8

38,000 teaching posts to go

The Government is *planning* to cut 38,000 full-time teaching jobs in England by 1984-85, it is disclosed *in a White Paper* on government expenditure plans to be published on Tuesday Page 2

Warships spared

The Royal Navy's two amphibious assault ships, the Fearless and the Intrepid, which were due to go under the defence cuts, have won a temporary reprieve after a review of the cost of maintaining them Page 3

Rain stops play

Rain brought an early finish to the drawn opening match of the English cricket team's tour of South Africa. Australian and West Indian players are to be invited to South Africa later this year Page 20

1986 lift-off for two TV space channels on BBC

By Kenneth Gosling

The BBC was given permission by the Government yesterday to start broadcasting television programmes on two satellite channels from early in 1986. Making the announcement in the Commons, Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said there would be opportunities in the future for independent television to operate similar services.

One channel will be run by subscription, the other by a supplementary licence fee, something the Home Office proposed but which the BBC made clear yesterday it does not favour. In the long term, it said, it intended both channels to be funded mainly from subscription channel income.

Viewers wanting either or both services will have to buy dish aerials and other equipment which will cost initially £250, a figure expected to drop to £200 when quantities are produced. The aerial, two varieties of which were shown at a press conference at the BBC Television Centre, will later be replaced by a flat metal plate fixed to an outside wall.

The Independent Broadcasting Authority, which recently made a bid for satellite channels, welcomed the prospect of public debate on essential broadcasting issues, including assurances to existing viewers that the service from the four terrestrial channels would remain as good as possible.

This assurance had already been given by Mr Alasdair Milne, managing director of BBC television and director general designate, who said: "We are adamant that we will keep faith absolutely with the viewers we now serve. There is no question of taking programmes off existing networks and moving them to satellite channels. We seek to provide additional services through a new means of distribution and the licence-payer will benefit in the longer term."

In the Commons statement, Mr Whitelaw said it was vital to make an early start in an area of keen international competition. The initial two satellite channels would be increased to a maximum of five to be allocated as and when the demand justified it. An announcement would be made shortly, he said, about the future of cable television.

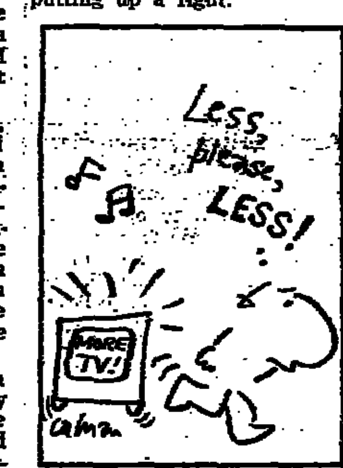
Mr Milne explained that on subscription television they would be seeking to lift the restriction, at present imposed on cable, prohibiting the showing of cinema films less than a year old. They wanted to broadcast films after their first showing in the cinema. The channel would show orchestral, operatic and dramatic productions and live events not now available on any network—for example, an entire golf tournament or motor race. Sports were now limited to transmission times which could be given without restricting other coverage.

The second channel, known as Window on the World, would feature the best television from around the world. Although the Home Office wanted this channel funded initially by a supplementary fee the proposed start date of 1986 meant this would not fall within the current licence fee period. Mr Milne said they did not want the licence-payer to face this burden. Mr Bill Cotton, director of development, said satellite television was only a small gamble and he thought the numbers who would want to watch would bring a profit very quickly.

Television satellite channels could provide additional radio services, and the BBC said it wanted to explore this facility for digital transmission perhaps of high quality music services.

The BBC expects viewers to obtain the subscription service with something like a credit card keyed into the equipment in the home to select the programmes the viewer wanted to watch; a new card would probably be purchased annually.

In Manchester last night, Mr Colin Shaw, the Independent Broadcasting Authority's director of television, said he thought some countries were unwilling to see their television services threatened by invading satellite services without putting up a fight.



Kosher welcome for Mitterrand

President Mitterrand attending a traditional Jewish ceremony of welcome with bread, salt and wine in Jerusalem yesterday. On his right, President Navon toasts Mme Mitterrand; Mr Teddy Kollek, Mayor of Jerusalem, is on the French President's left. In a speech to the Knesset M Mitterrand spoke of the fundamental right of all people to exist, and went on to give his unequivocal support for the eventual right of the Palestinians to seek an independent state. Their right to self-determination should depend on their respecting the rights of others and respecting international law, and substituting a dialogue for violence. Israeli ministers were well prepared for the French leader's stand, but it gained significance by being made in a speech broadcast live by radio and television throughout the country. The general reaction among politicians after the speech was that M Mitterrand had not sabotaged the overall political and psychological benefits of his visit, which continued to be conducted in an atmosphere of mutual goodwill. Earlier, he had spoken with emotion about his feeling for the Jewish people.

Knesset clash, page 7

Widow's right to uphold the left

By a Staff Reporter

Lady Serota, the local government ombudsman, has rules that a council which banned a widow from referring to her husband, Mr Michael Robinson, as a communist in a crematorium remembrance book was guilty of maladministration.

Southwark Council in south London is expected to reconsider its decision and allow Mrs Robinson to write after her husband's name: "Scientist, teacher and communist, who spent his life in the struggle for a better world."

In her ruling Lady Serota said the widow was caused an injustice. "It is surely the right of all individual citizens in a free society to record their own tributes to the deceased unless these break the laws of blasphemy, obscenity, defamation or discrimination, or are likely to lead to public disorder."

The tribute to Mr Robinson, a research officer with the Medical Research Council, who died in October, 1980, was banned by the crematorium superintendent, who wrote to the widow saying that the remembrance book was for interdenominational messages of "purely sentimental or religious recollection, and political leanings should not enter into the subject".

He added that he would find the rest of the epitaph very suitable if the word 'communist' was deleted".

But the widow called the decision objectionable and consulted local clergymen and her MP, all of whom supported her case.

The council said the epitaph would be offensive since Britain was a Christian society and communism was a denial of religion. The crematorium superintendent consulted the three clergymen most closely involved with the crematorium and they upheld his decision.

The Ombudsman found the council guilty of maladministration because they were told the widow wanted to write "Communist" in the book, whereas she had insisted her husband be described as "a communist with a small c, which he was".

Also, the guidelines used to back up the decision had not been evolved until after the word was banned.

After declaring that individuals had the right, within certain bounds, to record what they wished in the remembrance book, Lady Serota concluded: "There was nothing to suggest the entry would create a feeling of unfairness or open the floodgates for insertions which would debase the remembrance book."

Southwark council said it had no other experience of words being barred from the book.

Last night the authority refused to comment on the ruling, but it is understood that a meeting of the council's highways and works committee on March 22 is likely to allow the inscription to be placed in the book.

Thorpe quits after Amnesty protests

By Michael Horsnell

Mr Jeremy Thorpe, the former Liberal leader, resigned as the director of Amnesty International's British section yesterday in the face of an overwhelming campaign to oust him from the £14,000-a-year job.

His resignation, six days before he was due to start work, will prevent a major split in the movement, although three of the section Council's 25 members have already quit in protest at his appointment.

Mr Thorpe's withdrawal follows a meeting on Wednesday with M Roget Briottet, chairman of the section, who continued to support him.

In an exchange of letters yesterday Mr Thorpe told him: "What continues to astound me is that people who claim to believe in human rights and civil liberties should display so much pettiness and prejudice".

In reply, M Briottet said: "I remain convinced that had you continued in your post you and I would have worked in harmony for the benefit of Amnesty International".

Mr Thorpe, aged 52, was appointed three weeks ago from 42 candidates. But after growing resentment among Amnesty's 19,000 British members and 11-strong staff a move was made to oust him.

He survived this by 11 votes to 9 at a meeting of the council on Saturday. But the council agreed to sound out opinion to determine the extent of the opposition.

Mr David Astor, former editor of *The Observer* and co-founder of Amnesty, who was one of the leaders of the movement to oust Mr Thorpe, said he was delighted at the resignation.

He said: "I am not altogether surprised because I had heard that he was thinking of doing this. I think he has done the right thing. They should never have offered him the job in the first place.

Mr William Makin, secretary of the February 1982 Action Committee, which was formed last Saturday to reverse the appointment, said: "Our interest is in the ability of Amnesty to work for prisoners of conscience, and it is because of that we offered Mr Thorpe the possibility of resigning so he would not involve our sacred people, the prisoners."

Mr Thorpe said last night: "I am not complaining about what has happened. If you go into public life you accept this sort of thing. I think I could have done the job."

Amnesty said it remained uncertain whether the council would re-advertise the post or approach people on the original short list of four. Mr Thorpe's appointment came after the dismissal of Mr Cosmas Desmond after internal quarrels.

Thorpe letter, page 2

Kremlin rift fuelled by new absence

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, March 4

Speculation that a rift has opened up between Mr Andrei Kirilenko, a senior Politburo member, and his colleagues was fuelled today by his notable absence last night from the performance of a play attended by President Brezhnev and most other senior members of the Politburo.

The Soviet leader went to a performance at the Moscow Arts Theatre of a new play called *Thus We Will Be Victorious* which deals with the final year of Lenin's life—and has been highly praised by critics.

A Tass announcement of his visit listed six Politburo members who accompanied him: Mr Andrei Gromyko, Mr Yuri Andropov, Mr Arvid Pelshe, Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, Mr Dmitry Ustinov and Mr Konstantin Chernyenko. Two other members, Mr Viktor Grishin and Mr Mikhail Gorbachov saw the play a few days ago. That means that of the 10 members of the Politburo who are based in Moscow all but Mr Kirilenko are known to have attended.

After Mr Suslov's death Mr Kirilenko, who is 75, is the senior party secretary in the 13-man ruling body and is now the only one who was already a member before Mr Brezhnev became General Secretary in 1964.

In the past he has stood in to represent the party for the Soviet leader during his illness or absence.

Speculation has been fed by unconfirmed rumours circulating in Moscow in recent weeks that a "pre-succession" struggle might be going on in the Politburo as its members jockey for position after the death of Mr Suslov.

Mr Suslov, the veteran ideologue, was a man of enormous authority within the Soviet Communist Party, and he was the principal pillar on which Mr Brezhnev's own authority rested. His death leaves no obvious successor.

Mr Brezhnev's own authority is still absolute within the Soviet Union and there is no question that any individual or group is in a position to mount a challenge to him. However, he is now 75 and Russians expect him to remain in power until his death.

Diary, page 12

Pym promises inquiry over 'spy' researchers claim

Mr Francis Pym, leader of the Commons said yesterday that claims that unpaid research assistants, taken on by MPs, could be security risks would be investigated. Mr Pym told MPs that the all-party Commons Services Committee would examine the issue.

"There are security implications ... there is an issue here which needs investigating," he said.

MPs have recently expressed fears that the growing number of unpaid assistants from abroad may be "reporting back" to outside agencies. It was announced on Wednesday that more than 100 MPs would be receiving letters from Tory and Labour Whips offices, asking for confidential details of their research assistants' backgrounds.

Last night, another rumpus was brewing as security authorities realized that some confidential questionnaires sent to MPs had been filled in by the assistants themselves.

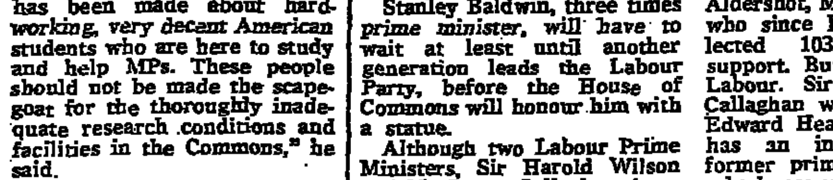
More than 12 of the forms have already been returned to the authorities but at least one MP, the authorities say, just handed the form to his American research assistant for her to complete. The giveaway was that the assistant said in the form that she was in Britain as part of an educational "program" with the American spelling.

Mr Nicholas Winterton, Tory MP for Macclesfield, said in the Commons yesterday, that many complaints were being passed to MPs "about the presence of very strange people in this building who seemed to work at very strange hours".

Mr Stanley Clinton Davis, Labour MP for Hackney Central, said there was a clear need for guidelines to be laid down

He added: "A great deal of very unpleasant speculation and defamatory observation has been made about hard-working, very decent American students who are here to study and help MPs. These people should not be made the scapegoat for the thoroughly inadequate research conditions and facilities in the Commons," he said.

Mr Pym replied that a number of allegations had been made. He added that the issue had to be dealt with, "if only to satisfy ourselves that, in certain respects, the present arrangements are satisfactory and if in others they are not we can do something about it."



Baldwin must wait

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Stanley Baldwin, three times *prime minister*, will have to wait at least until another generation leads the Labour Party, before the House of Commons will honour him with a statue.

Although two Labour Prime Ministers, Sir Harold Wilson and Mr James Callaghan, have so far forgiven him for his share in the mistakes of the Thirties, Labour's present leader, Mr Michael Foot, cannot. The move to commemorate Baldwin with a statue in the Members' lobby, was begun by the Conservative MP for Aldershot, Mr Julian Critchley, who since December has collected 103 signatures in support. But only three were Labour. Sir Harold and Mr Callaghan were joined by Mr Edward Heath, each of whom has an interest in seeing former prime ministers properly honoured.

Yesterday Mr Critchley went with some misgiving to enlist Mr Foot's support and sympathy, but was rejected. The Labour Party had not forgiven Baldwin, Mr Foot said, for breaking the general strike of 1926.

Detective is shot dead by raiders

By Our Crime Reporter

A young detective was shot dead yesterday as he challenged two gunmen after a payroll robbery at a factory in Bishop Auckland, co Durham.

Det. Constable James Porter, aged 28, and married, from Durham, died as he went to challenge the gunmen in a field, a few minutes after a raid on a wallpaper factory on the Greenfield Industrial Estate.

Det. Constable Brian Stewart, was slightly injured and taken to hospital. The robbery at the Chamberlain Phipps factory, happened when two men with handguns and wearing balaclavas entered the factory and fled with cash. The raiders ran off as the police were alerted. The two detectives confronted the men in a field and were fired on. Mr Porter was shot in the chest.

As the policemen fell, the raiders seized their police car but another police car, arriving on the scene, rammed it and two men were detained. They were being questioned last night.

Police shoot man

Police shot and wounded a man after a robbery in which cash was grabbed from a Securicor guard near a supermarket in north London yesterday (the Press Association reports).

The injured man was hit in the face by a bullet from a police revolver, after officers were challenged by two men with sawn-off shotguns. Another man who took the cash bag at gunpoint escaped in a waiting car which was found abandoned behind the Tesco supermarket in Fore Street, Edmonton.

He was later seen running over a railway bridge, still clutching the bag, which contained £12,000 collected from the supermarket.

Gerard Tuite is captured in Drogheda

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Gerard Tuite, a fugutive from Brixton prison's maximum security wing and wanted by Scotland Yard on charges connected with Provisional IRA bombings, was arrested yesterday in the Irish Republic. Last night he was in custody at Drogheda, co Louth, pending possible extradition proceedings.

A Garda official said Mr Tuite, who escaped from Brixton in 1980 with two other prisoners, was arrested at a house in the centre of Drogheda at 11am yesterday. Several other men were also held by detectives.

The official added that Mr Tuite, the object of a big police hunt in London after his escape, was being held pending extradition proceedings. Last night, however, Scotland Yard said it could not comment yet on what it would do.

Mr Tuite was being held last night under the republic's Offences Against the State Act. It allows suspects to be held in custody for 48 hours without charge.

He is not wanted by the republic's police, but he could be charged under the Criminal Law Jurisdiction Act which allows a person to be tried in one jurisdiction for offences committed in another.

Last week, four Belfast men were sentenced to 10 years' penal servitude each on charges relating to an escape from jail in Belfast.

A British application to extradite Mr Tuite is unlikely to be successful, however, because under the republic's relevant Act, prisoners deemed to be political can be exempted; Irish courts have generally refused such requests. It is possible that he could be tried in the republic on a charge of being a member of the IRA.

Mr Tuite: Tunnelled out of prison.

Mr Tuite was arrested in London in 1979 at a flat in west London during a police operation; "Operation Otis". He was charged with bombings the previous year in central London and at Greenwich gasworks, and at a Canvey Island oil terminal early in 1979.

He was also charged with taking part in a plot to free Brian Keenan, at one time a senior IRA organizer who controlled the group finally trapped during the Balcombe Street siege in north-west London in 1976. The plan was to use a helicopter to lift Keenan from Brixton.

In December 1980, it was Mr Tuite who escaped. With two other prisoners, using home-made and smuggled tools, he tunnelled between cells in the prison's maximum security wing, out of the building, and over the prison's perimeter wall to freedom.

One of the other prisoners gave himself up soon afterwards but the third, Mr James Moody, who was awaiting trial on an armed robbery charge, is still free. Mr Moody's brother, Richard, and Stanley Thompson, the second prisoner, were convicted for their parts in the escape.

LSO

THE LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

A Word to the Corporation of the City of London

Thankyou –
for turning a dream into reality.

Twenty years of waiting finished on Wednesday, and for the first time a London orchestra has its own home. The amount of time and effort involved in making that simple statement true is incalculable.

It was in 1966 that we were appointed Waits to the City*.
We take this opportunity as 'Waits' to express our appreciation to the City, the architects and the Barbican administration for our splendid new home.

Welcome –
to our Barbican subscribers.
We shall of course continue to promote our concerts at the Royal Festival Hall, especially of very large works. We intend that our Barbican seasons and Festival Hall concerts should complement each other and enable us *to present a co-ordinated* programme over the year.

LSO/RSC Performance
It is particularly appropriate that the first composer whose work we especially honour should be Sir William Walton. *As part of his 80th birthday* celebrations, we have taken the opportunity of using Façade as the first expression of our association with our famous neighbour, the Royal Shakespeare Company. This performance, on *30th March, will feature the* LSO Chamber Ensemble (Leader Michael Davis) with Judi Dench, Sally Owen, Allan Hendrick, Joe Melia and Richard Pasco in a double bill with Stravinsky's The Soldier's Tale.

**Waits:* A small body of wind instrumentalists maintained by a city or town at the public charge. They played for the daily diversion of the councillors, on ceremonial and festive occasions, and as a town or city band they entertained the citizens, perambulating the streets, often by night or in the early morning (O.E.D.).

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Rail must meet £75m strike bill

British Rail will get no help from the Government to meet the cost of the Aslef strike, estimated to be about £75m so far, Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, said yesterday (Michael Baily writes). It would be "quite wrong" for the cost of the strike to be met by the taxpayer, he declared.

He is authorizing a rise in BR's short-term borrowing limits of £40m to £150m but that will have to be repaid. Any overspending in the board's external financing will also have to be reclaimed by an adjustment next year. That means that both investment and operating costs will be affected, with extra job losses, cuts in services and delays in investment. BR said last night: "This confirms what we have been saying all along: that no one else is going to foot the bill for the Aslef strike."

Keegan 'freed' for World Cup

Mr Kevin Keegan, the England football captain, will not have to appear in court during the World Cup, Mr Justice Michael Davies ruled in the High Court yesterday. He delayed until October the start of the action in which Mr Keegan is suing Public Eye Enterprises of Leeds for misrepresentation, and said he had been made to look "a complete and utter idiot" last week because he had been given the wrong date for the World Cup final.

Tobacco pact attacked

Labour MPs tabled a Commons motion last night attacking the new agreement on the sponsorship of sports events by tobacco companies.

Mr David Ennals, a former Labour Secretary of State for Social Services, said: "The majority of people would now welcome banning all advertising of tobacco except at the point of sale."

A Thatcher at LBC



Miss Carol Thatcher, the Prime Minister's daughter, at the microphone. She is to join LBC, the London commercial current affairs radio station, as a morning phone-in programme presenter, and she expects later to have her own late night programme.

Offer rejected

Union leaders of 90,000 power station workers rejected an Electricity Council pay offer of just under 8 per cent yesterday and gave a warning of possible industrial action unless a higher offer was made.

Hesketh fails test

Lord Hesketh, who launched a 1,000 cc motor cycle earlier this year, failed his driving test in Northampton yesterday on a 250 cc Suzuki. He was failed for bad gear changes and riding too slowly.

Correction

Burke's Peerage (Genealogical Books Limited), not Burke's Peerage as stated in our report on March 2, was sold to Baron Frederick Van Pallandt in January, 1980.

TGWU will not ask members in leadership vote

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The Transport and General Workers' Union decided yesterday to avoid an embarrassing repetition of last year's controversial "consultation exercise" on the Benn-Healey Labour Party deputy leadership election by the simple expedient of not consulting the members.

The 37 members of the union's lay executive examined various options designed to extend political decision-making to the branches and the shop floor, but came down in favour of preserving the status quo.

The decision leaves in the hands of a left-wing-dominated executive the most influential say on how the union's 1,250,000 votes should be cast at the Labour Party conference when it sits as an electoral college to choose a leader and deputy leader.

Last year there was much political controversy after the TGWU delegation to the conference in Brighton cast the biggest block vote for Mr Wedgwood Benn, despite a regional "consultation exercise" that appeared to show a majority for his moderate rival, Mr Denis Healey, who then scraped home by a majority of under 1 per cent.

After much pressure from trade union leaders and some of his political allies Mr Benn is not expected to renew his challenge to Mr Healey in the autumn. But if he does, or if another strong left-wing candidate appears, there will not be another attempt to hold a branch vote in the transport union on the merits of the candidates.

☐ The new leader of Britain's largest Civil Service union yesterday set in train a purge of Militant Tendency supporters after alleging they had achieved "frightening power" in many branches.

Mr Alastair Graham, general secretary designate of the Civil and Public Services Association, opened his campaign against the extreme left with a letter to members in the opposition's stronghold, the 8,000-strong Department of Health and Social Security branch in Newcastle upon Tyne.

In it he said: "At a time when members are facing a sustained onslaught from this Government on their pay, conditions of service and jobs, we need to keep a powerful, healthy and democratic union. I ask for your support to ensure we reject the ideological fantasies of extremists."

The first target of the CPSA moderate leadership campaign is Mr John Macreadie, a national officer responsible for civil aviation staff (including air traffic control assistants), who is standing for the post of deputy general secretary.

Mr Graham tells his members: "I am asking you *not* to vote for John Macreadie in the deputy general secretaryship election. He was the 'broad left' candidate for the general secretary post and was soundly defeated. But if there is a low poll in this election he could still be a serious threat."

He adds: "There is nothing broad about the leftwing in the CPSA. It is totally dominated by the Militant Tendency, as they 'bus in' their supporters to the unofficial 'broad left' conferences which decide who will stand as leftwing candidates. They have become so dominant in many branches that active union members of all political persuasions have become frightened of their power."

Mr Graham, who beat Mr Macreadie almost two to one in a recent election for the union's top job, goes on: "I want to have a constructive working relationship with a deputy general secretary, rather than indulge in political bickering which achieves nothing for the members".

Mr Macreadie countered last night: "This is a typical smear campaign. It seems he wants to have a puppet as a deputy. Notice he never talks about policies, only about personalities."

European Tories to fight party list plan

By George Clark

The European Democratic (Conservative) group of MEPs decided in London yesterday to oppose the plan for the next elections to the European Parliament in 1984 to be conducted on the party list system of proportional representation.

The parliament in Strasbourg is under an obligation to put forward a uniform system of voting to be adopted in all 10 countries of the EEC. It would need the approval of the Council of Ministers and legislation in the national parliaments.

Next week the plan for a party list system, put forward by the political affairs committee, comes up for debate and vote in Strasbourg. The Conservatives, consisting of 60 British members, two Danes, and one Official Ulster Unionist, will seek to change the method of election to the additional member system (AMS).

Explaining the tactics, Sir Henry Plumb, leader of the group, said that under AMS three-quarters of the MEPs from each country would be elected in single-member constituencies and the rest would be chosen from a list, so that representation matched the proportion of votes cast for each party.

Asked whether Mrs Margaret Thatcher and the Government approved of the group's action, Sir Henry said: "We all know that the British Government and the House of Commons as a whole do not want to change from the first-past-the-post system. But I think the Government would regard AMS as the least objectionable form of proportional representation. Also, we believe it is the only system which could get through the Council of Ministers."

Mr Adam Fergusson, Conservative European MP for Strathclyde, West, a spokesman for the group on electoral reform, said the AMS system had been favoured by the Strasbourg political affairs committee until last October, when the decision was altered, largely because of political group manoeuvrings before the elections for the presidency and other official positions.

Foot will oppose reselection switches

☐ Mr Michael Foot is to support an attempt to bar Labour members of the European Parliament from trying to wrest Westminster constituency candidatures from sitting Labour MPs (Our Political Correspondent writes). He is expected to raise the issue at next Monday's meeting of the Labour national executive's organization committee.

Mr Frederick Mulley, aged 63, the former Secretary of State for Defence, was replaced as prospective parliamentary candidate for Sheffield Park, by Mr Richard Caborn, aged 38, Sheffield's left-wing MEP, who had contested the reselection in defiance of national executive advice.

Mr Mulley told the weekly meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party last night that he would not be lodging any procedural appeal against his rejection.

Conrad Hafenricht



Record victory: Mr John Deacon, director general of the British Phonographic Industry, with some of the records involved in BPI's £250,000 action.

Record pirates to pay £250,000

The British Phonographic Industry is to received £250,000 in damages for unpaid royalties on millions of records alleged to have been imported into this country illegally, undercutting their British-made counterparts (Christopher Warman writes).

The out-of-court settlement comes after a series of High Court actions against Simons Records, Simon Sales Stores and Warrens Records. It is the BFI's biggest success in its campaign to stop what has become known as "parallel imports" entering Britain.

The defendants also gave undertakings *not* to import records sent from their non-EEC country of origin to Holland, where copyright laws are less stringent.

One of the actions was brought by Mowtown Records over albums, featuring Stevie Wonder, Diana Ross and the Commodores, imported from Portugal. The BPI tried to show that these albums were counterfeit, but the defendants maintained that they were genuine, and the settlement in respect of these records was made without any admission of liability.

During the action it was established that Simons Records, one of the country's largest wholesale record importers, had brought about 2,500,000 parallel imports into Britain from Portugal by last spring.

The other main action concerned the importation from Canada via Holland of albums on the Chrysalis, CBS and BBC labels by artists including Blondie, Abba and the *Not the Nine O'Clock News* team.

Health service defends record on complaints

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

Health service administrators denied yesterday that the handling of the case of Mrs Carol Brown, who was paralysed by a pain-killing injection given during labour, was in any way typical of the health service as a whole.

Mr David Kenny, president of the Institute of Health Service Administrators, said the service had laid down clear guidelines on handling complaints and had a better record than most nationalized industries or hospitals in West Europe.

The guidelines lay down that all letters of complaint should be immediately acknowledged, and if no satisfactory explanation can be provided within two weeks a letter explaining the delay should be sent.

All letters of complaint have to be logged and most authorities have a system of monitoring them.

So what went wrong in the case of Merton, Sutton and Wandsworth Area Health Authority, which had to pay record damages of £414,563 to Mrs Brown and was criticized by a High Court judge for its "scandalous" handling of the case?

Mr Peter Foot, area administrator, thinks the crux of the case rests on the relationship between the district administrator, who is close to the ground and to whom all complaints are made, and the regional legal advisers, who are farther away and several tiers up the hierarchy.

Since the health service reorganization in 1974, area authorities and district management teams are under pressure not to hire solicitors but to use the legal staff of the region.

However, those lawyers see themselves as answerable to the regional administrator and not to the district administrator, who has to handle complaints. Consequently in this case, as the solicitor told the inquiry set up to look into it, there was little communication between the legal adviser and the district and area administrators.

Mr Foot added that although the authority was criticized for its discourtesy, the length of time the case took before settlement was reached was not exceptionally long.

The inquiry team looked at 11 comparable cases and found the average settlement period was about four years, two months. Mrs Brown's case took less than two years.

Mr William Darling, chairman of the National Association of Health Authorities, said all complaints should be dealt with as quickly as possible. "Where the blame is quite clear the authority should bend over backwards to be sympathetic and as humane as possible".

'Pettiness' charge by Thorpe

The text of Mr Jeremy Thorpe's letter of resignation from Amnesty to Mr Roget Briottet, British section chairman, was as follows:

Dear Roget, Three weeks ago the Council of Amnesty by a large majority invited me from a field of 42 applicants to become director of the British section. Having long been a committed believer in the aims of Amnesty, my acceptance was whole-hearted, and was still further strengthened by the size of my postbag in support. I believe we both looked forward with shared enthusiasm to working together for the movement.

Last Saturday, barely three weeks later, the same council, by a margin of two votes, decided not to rescind my appointment, but agreed to sound out opinion in the country to determine the extent of the opposition to that appointment. I welcomed this latter decision since I share your belief that the most vociferous critics in Amnesty are totally unrepresentative of the rank-and-file members, who are by now weary of past and present squabbling in the British section.

But two other considerations weigh with me. Firstly, the atmosphere of strife in recent years has weakened the morale of the movement, and further conflict would inflict further damage. Secondly, the attitude of some of the observers at last Saturday's meetings makes it clear to me that however large the backing for my appointment by the membership, there would still remain a minority who, on past form, would continue to try to undermine the director's position.

This could prove fatal to the British section and unhelpful to the international movement. Having worked for both, I would be the last person who would wish this to happen. What continues to astound me is that people who claim to believe in human rights and civil liberties should display so much pettiness and prejudice. I have therefore decided that it is in the best interests of Amnesty that I withdraw as director. In doing so, I want to make clear that *my support for the aims of Amnesty remains undiminished.*

Finally, may I pay tribute to your courage, courtesy, support and sense of fair play throughout this sorry affair. I wish you well in giving leadership to the British section, which they so badly need.

Yours ever, Jeremy.

Mr Briottet replied in a letter to Mr Thorpe:

Dear Jeremy, I thank you for your letter informing me of your intention to withdraw as director of the British section. This is a decision which, naturally I regret. As you point out, you were appointed by the council by a large majority, and a recent attempt to reverse this original decision was unsuccessful.

Therefore, in the circumstances, I regard your decision to withdraw as being inspired by your high regard for the aims of Amnesty International, an organization which you know well, and have served in the past.

I am convinced that the membership of the British section will appreciate at its high value, the decision which you have taken in the interests of a movement devoted to the defence of human rights.

Lastly, I wish to thank you for your encouragement and support. I remain convinced that had you continued in your post you and I would have worked in harmony for the benefit of Amnesty International.

Yours sincerely, Roget.

Volunteers queue to join Home Guard

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

Tony Weaver

Major-General Derek Boorman, the Army's Director of Military Operations, who is responsible for the new force.

The Army spent much of yesterday dealing with hundreds of inquiries from people anxious to join Britain's new Home Guard when it re-emerges in the autumn.

From farm and lane and mill they came to district headquarters, TA centres, recruiting offices and even the Ministry of Defence, only to be asked to bide their time until September 1, when four pilot companies will be formed at Perth, Birmingham, Bury St Edmunds, and one for the South-east at Reading, Portsmouth, and Maidenhead.

The Army was happy with the public reaction, even with the inevitable sobriquet "Dad's Army", which it interprets as an affectionate reminder of people who in the last war had at least an important bit-part to play.

The companies, each of which will have about 95 members, will be operated for between eighteen months and two years before any decision is taken over creating a national organization of 4,500. The cost of the pilot scheme was said yesterday to be "less than £500,000".

Senior officers were eager to emphasize, however, that the resemblance of tomorrow's Home Service Force (HSF) to yesterday's Home Guard is only skin deep. The new force would be smaller and more specialized, with the prime objective of freeing the regular and other reserve forces for more mobile operations in wartime.

Ex-Servicemen are preferred, but particularly required will be men in their thirties and forties who have had to leave the Territorial Army through lack of time and family commitments but would still like to be involved in something less demanding.

The four or five weekends of training each year are likely to involve map-reading, weapons practice, basic fieldcraft and intelligence briefings on "the threat", as well as experience at the key points they would have to protect in wartime.

The weapons with which the pilot units will be issued will almost certainly be old bolt-action Lee Enfield rifles of a type familiar to those who served in the last war or did National Service.

☐ Mr Wedgwood Benn yesterday intensified his campaign for the implementation of Labour Party conference defence policy by presenting in the Commons a Bill that would lead to the removal of American nuclear bases from Britain (Philip Webster writes).

The Bill would make it unlawful for nuclear, chemical or biological weapons or bases established to maintain, store, target or fire such weapons owned or controlled, or jointly controlled, by a foreign country to be sited in the United Kingdom.

Leading article, page 13

WARNING

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Thousands of teachers to go by 1985

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Government spending plans to be published in a White Paper on Tuesday call for a reduction of 38,000 full-time teachers' jobs in England by 1984-85, representing a 9 per cent cut, while pupil numbers are due to fall by only 8 per cent over the same period.

The average pupil-teacher ratio for primary and secondary schools will thus rise from 18.56 : 1 last January to 18.74 : 1 in January, 1985. Yet it is generally agreed that the number of teachers needs to fall rather less fast than the number of pupils if school standards are to be maintained.

The Government intends to maintain the planned cuts up to 1983-84 for universities and higher education, but proposes to make no further cuts in 1984-85. The White Paper will not make that clear, however, as the higher education expenditure figures have been lumped together with those for non-advanced further education.

Comparisons of spending levels between years for any service will be more difficult than in the past because all the figures in the White Paper will be in cash terms, including an allowance for assumed level of inflation, rather than in real terms as in the past.

The Government has estimated that the level of inflation next year will be 4 per cent for pay and 9 per cent for prices, or 6 per cent overall, going down to 5 per cent in 1983-84 and 4 per cent the next year.

Schoolmasters plan industrial action

☐ The executive of Britain's second largest teachers' union is expected to approve today industrial action for its 124,000 members which will affect thousands of school from next Thursday (the Press Association reports).

The National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers executive will consider a resolution to withdraw completely from midday meals and school supervision and staff and parents meetings outside school hours.

On Wednesday pay talks broke down. They affect 450,000 teachers in England and Wales. The management side refused to improve its 3.4 per cent offer in response to the union claim for a 22-12 per cent rise. It also rejected the teachers call for arbitration.

The NAS/UWT move was decided at a union action committee meeting in Birmingham yesterday. Mr Terence Casey, the general secretary has given local education authorities 48 hours' notice so that they can make arrangements for lunchtime suspension.

Science report

The giant salamander that cries like a baby

By Tony Samstag

Only rarely do primary reports on natural history and conservation in China appear in the West. An article on a species of giant salamander in the current issue of *Oryx*, the journal of the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society, describes the largest known amphibian. It can grow to 180cm in length and weigh up to 65kg, about the size and weight of a policeman, and yet is called "baby fish" by the Chinese because its cry resembles that of an infant.

"The amphibians flourished when the Earth consisted of a single continent, Pangaea, about 200 million years ago", Huang Zhujian writes. "At that time Cryptobranchid salamanders were more widely distributed. . . When Pangaea split apart into plates, these drifted further and further from one another and became separated by oceans. With changes in geography and climatic conditions, many Cryptobranchid species, like other animals, were eliminated through natural selection, leaving only . . . two in east Asia and one in the eastern United States."

Megalobatrachus davidianus is the most widely distributed, occurring in the tributaries of the Yangtse, Yellow and Pearl rivers across 17 provinces and regions.

"These salamanders are usually solitary, living in fast clear mountain streams, 200 to 1,000 metres above sea level. . . . The adults are lazy and inactive, but temperamental, snapping at each other during the night." The author quotes a Sichuan proverb: "The baby fish sits on shore, and delights in eating what comes his way." That includes crabs and frogs, mainly, supplemented by fish, shrimp, snakes, aquatic insects, young turtles, water rats and plant residue. The young are herbivorous until they are about two years old. Adults can survive without food for a year. "The flesh is delicious and nourishing and also has medicinal value."

Although the species is nominally protected in China, the author recommends stricter legal safeguards on breeding populations and encouragement of captive breeding programmes.

Source: *The Chinese Salamander* (Huang Zhujian, Department of Vertebrate Taxonomy, Institute of Zoology, Adcadema Sinica, Zhong Guan Cun, Beijing). *Oryx* (vol xvi no 3), Fauna and Flora Preservation Society, c/o Zoological Society of London, Regent's Park, London NW1 4RY.

One 'Times' union puts off decision on jobs

By Our Labour Staff

Leaders of the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel decided yesterday to defer approval of any job reduction agreements between local union officials and Times Newspapers until there is a clearer picture of negotiations throughout the company.

The union's executive discussed the London machine branch committee's refusal to back an understanding reached with the company by the night machine chapel (office branch) at *The Sunday Times* for a reduction of 168 shifts. No decision was made, but the understanding is likely to be approved eventually, despite the branch's opposition.

Talks with officials of the Natsopa clerical chapels, where 210 employees have been sent compulsory redundancy notices, continued but the management maintained its refusal to confirm chapel claims that the overall total job cuts being asked of them had been reduced from 330 to 225.

The management also refused to say how many clerical workers have volunteered for redundancy. The company had said that if sufficient numbers came forward by last Wednesday, the compulsory notices would be lifted.

The National Graphical Association, the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades and the National Union of Journalists were also involved in negotiations yesterday. Some progress was said by the management to have been made with the first two unions.

Mr Noel Howell, Fleet Street officer for the NUJ, said the union had no clear idea what the company's intentions were toward the journalists. The company originally said that it wanted 35 volunteers for redundancy among the editorial staff.

Mr Rupert Murdoch, TNL chairman, is expected back in London this morning after a short visit to New York.

PLEDGE BY THATCHER QUERIED

By Pat Healy, Social

A pledge by the Prime Minister to protect pensioners against inflation is threatened by the proposed new formula for raising supplementary benefits, Mr Jeffrey Rooker MP for Birmingham, Perry Barr, and Labour spokesman on social security, told the Commons yesterday.

During business questions he urged Mr Francis Pym, Leader of the House, to take steps to ensure that there is no confusion about the issue after next week's Budget.

Mr Rooker raised the same point in more detail yesterday during the final sitting of the Commons Standing Committee on the Social Security and Housing Benefits Bill.

It was during the committee's session on Tuesday that Mr Hugh Rossi, Minister for Social Security, announced the new formula which would exclude housing costs from the retail price index and is expected to lead to lower increases in supplementary benefit in November.

Mr Rooker quoted several ministerial statements, including one from Mr Rossi, which all specified supplementary pensions as one of the benefits covered by the Prime Ministers' pledge to protect long-term benefits from inflation.

MARRIAGE ENABLING BILLS READ

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent

Two personal Bills were given a second reading in the Lords yesterday enabling marriages to take place of couples related by marriage but not by blood.

The decision of the Archbishop of Canterbury Dr Runcie, to set up a committee to advise him on these matters and seek an alternative to the personal Bill procedure was warmly welcomed.

The two Bills before the House represent the third occasion in the past three years on which personal legislation has been introduced to resolve marital difficulties.

The first of yesterday's marriage enabling Bills would allow Mr John Dare, aged 66, to marry his stepdaughter, Gillian Loder Dare, aged 49

Parliamentary report, page 4

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 28; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 40; Canada $2.50; Canaries Pes 125; Cyprus 550 mils; Denmark Dkr 7; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mkk 7.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 80; Holland Gl 3.25; Iran IR 135; Iraq LD 0.500; Irish Republic 50p; Italy L 800; Jordan LD 0.425; Kuwait KD .450; Lebanon LL 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 33; Madeira Esc 75; Malta 30c; Morocco Dir 7; Norway Kr 7.50; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 90; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 4.50; Singapore $5.00; Spain Pes 125; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria LS5.50; Tunisia Din 600; USA $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 50

Ousted RSPCA man says he was a scapegoat

By John Young

Two of the three senior officials of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) who were summarily dismissed on Wednesday yesterday complained of intrigue and excessive secrecy in the society's council.

Mr Julian Hopkins, the £22,000-a-year executive director, said the dismissal letter had come as a bombshell. Mr James Clyde, the financial controller, who earned £18,000, said he was still in a state of shock.

Mr Harry Gape, the society's inspectorate controller, the third official, was not available for comment.

Mr Hopkins said it appeared that Mr Anelay Hart, the society's chairman, and Mrs Rachel Smith, its treasurer, who recently held an investigation into staff complaints of extravagance, had been looking for scapegoats.

Neither he nor his colleagues had been allowed to see their report or to challenge its findings. It was the job of paid officials to implement the society's policies, but a number of radical members of the council had for some time been seeking to discredit them.

Mr Hopkins, who lives in a house rented from the society, said he had not yet decided whether to claim wrongful dismissal at an industrial tribunal. He had a right to be told the reasons for his dismissal within a fortnight, after which he would take legal advice.

Mr Clyde said that the notices were handed to Mr Hopkins and himself at about *4.30pm on Wednesday after a* six-hour meeting of the council. Mr Gape was informed orally at the same time that he was redundant.

Mr Clyde said: "The letter informing me that my contract was at an end had been typed the day before. I was told I must not come back to the building. When I asked the chairman for the reason he said the council had no confidence in me.

"We are three fairly strong, outspoken people, and we have quite clearly been undermined. I am afraid it is a sign of what the council has been doing for a long time now, making decisions in a vacuum."

Mr Clude said that he had found a padlock on his office door yesterday morning, and a man outside Mr Hopkins's office with instructions to prevent even his secretary from entering.

The society yesterday would make no official comment. However, it was suggested that the investigation by Mr Hart and Mrs. Smith was response to low morale among staff.

The dismissals are likely to be seen as another episode in the long struggle for power within the world's oldest and most famous animal welfare organization.

The basic disagreement, though there are endless ramifications, is between the conservative establishment, referred to derisively as "the cat and dog brigade", and those who want to see the society take a less equivocal attitude on such matters as hunting and shooting.

The subject of animal welfare is becoming increasingly political, and people such as Mr Hopkins, who are identified with the conservative wing, have been accused of trying to influence the society's policies.

Traffic restricted on corroding Severn Bridge



The 16-year-old Severn Bridge, which carries 11 million vehicles a year, is being restricted to a single lane in each direction at peak times because corrosion to its "hangers" means it no longer meets safety requirements (Craig Seton writes). At least £5m will have to e spent on redesigning and replacing the damaged hangers, the two-inch-diameter steel ropes (such as those above) which fasten the bridge deck to the suspension cables. Traffic restrictions will apply between 4 am and 8 am on weekdays, when heavy lorry use is at its maximum. According to the Department of Transport, latest tests on the bridge's 360 hangers, 49 of which have already been replaced, show that "the remaining strengths may not now give an acceptable margin of safety if a significant length of the bridge were to be taken up mainly by heavy lorries, nose to tail".

The hangers are made up of 178 galvanized steel wires with tensile strength of 225 tons, which normally would need replacing after 20 or 30 years, but as the Severn Bridge was opened only in 1966, they are clearly corroding faster than expected, although the department says there is no emergency. The depatment said traffic delays were unlikely in spite of the restriction, which started on Monday. Photographs by Peter Trievnor.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Radioactive sprouts to be buried

Plants treated with radioactive calcium to try to solve a disorder which "browns" the centre of brussels sprouts are to be buried 6ft deep by the National Vegetable Research Station, at Wellesbourne, near Stratford-upon-Avon (Arthur Osman writes).

Professor John Bleasdale, of the research station, said yesterday that experiments in glasshouses over *the past* three years involved only 50 plants. Because radioactive material of a low order was involved, regulations required permission to dispose of it. The local council had given authority to bury the plants.

The disorder was due to a shortage of calcium and a cure would be particularly important to the freezer industry.

Conspiracy trial jury go home

The jury in the conspiracy trial at Manchester Crown Court involving Julie Goodyear, the television actress, were sent home at lunchtime yesterday when the judge began to hear legal arguments. Mr Harold Singer, on behalf of the *Coronation Street* actress, began his submission to Judge Basil Gerrard at the end of the prosecution case.

Miss Goodyear, aged 39, of Rochdale Road East, Heywood, Manchester, her former secretary, Janet Ross, aged 28, of Berwick Road, Blackpool, and Victoria Montague, aged 24, of Gloucester Street, Atherton, Lancashire, all deny a charge of conspiracy to defraud.

Court rebuff for Plessey

Three senior judges at the Court of Session in Edinburgh yesterday refused to hear an appeal by Plessey, the electronics company, until written answers to claims had been lodged with the court on behalf of workers staging a sit-in at the Bathgate factory, in Lothian.

Lord Cameron, sitting with Lord Avonside and Lord Stott, gave the workers 14 *days to* lodge answers.

Operation for MP

Mr Stephen Ross, aged 55, Liberal MP for the Isle of Wight, is to undergo heart surgery this week.

Europe ban on seal cull sought

By Tony Samstag

Opposition to the annual Canadian seal hunt, a ritual as regular as the hunt itself, reached a crescendo yesterday with the announcement by Mr Stanley Johnson, Conservative MEP for East Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, that he and a dozen colleagues are to ask the European Parliament next Thursday to ban "products coming from seals whose stocks are depleted or threatened".

A petition calling for a ban on the importation of sealskins was delivered to the Prime Minister by animal welfare campaigners, led by Mr Terence Duffy, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers. The petition, it was claimed, represented 12 million trade unionists.

Mr Johnson, who returned yesterday from a fact-finding trip to the Magdalen Islands, in the Gulf of St Lawrence, said: "I have been able to witness on the ice floes the arrival of thousands of harp seals which, together with seals in the 'front ice' off the Newfoundland coast, make up the Northwest Atlantic herd.

"These seals have travelled thousands of miles from the Artic to reach their breeding grounds. The pupping has begun and the females are congregating on the whelping patches with their white-coated pups beside them."

About 200,000 harp and hooded seals are to be taken in this year's hunt, due to begin in the next few days. For the first time the conservationist lobby is represented in what traditionally had been seen as an animal welfare issue.

Seal pups are hunted for their thick white or blue fur, which they lose several weeks after birth. The traditional culling method of clubbing them to death in order to minimize skin damage has been denounced by animal welfare groups as inhumane, despite government supervision intended to ensure that the pups are unconscious or dead before they are skinned.

The conservationist view, as argued yesterday by Dr Sydney Holt, chairman of the Marine Mammals Committee of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, is that data are lacking on whether the seal populations concerned are stable

That view is shared by such organizations as the World Wildlife Fund (the public relations agency of IUCN) and by the government.

□ The 63-member group of European Democratic (Conservative) MPs decided in London yesterday to have a free vote when the European Parliament next week votes on a proposal that all EEC countries should ban imports of harp and hooded seal products (George Clark writes).

Sir Henry Plumb, leader of the group, said: "We have received hundreds of letters on this emotional subject. The lobbying is enormous. But we decided to leave it to the individual conscience of our members."

The Canadian Government is asking members of the European Parliament to rejectthe proposal.

Defence Secretary spares warships after visit

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

The Royal Navy's amphibious assault ships, HMS Fearless and HMS Intrepid, due to be scrapped after last year's defence review, have won a reprieve. Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, is expected to announce the move on Monday.

It was disclosed last month that Mr Nott had called for an assessment of how much it would cost to keep both 12,000-ton vessels afloat. The Defence Secretary is understood to have been impressed by the design and performance of HMS Fearless when he visited it and it was as a result that he had a change of heart.

Naval officers believe, however, that to keep the Intrepid and the Fearless they will have to sacrifice smaller destroyers and by no means all are convinced by that order of priorities.

The assault ships would be used in wartime to transport Royal Marines and their heavy equipment across the North Sea and the Marines will be delighted to hear that they have been saved.

However, the Fearless is already 17 years old and the Intrepid 15 years, and with no keels laid to replace them the future for such vessels must be short. The Navy would have preferred to use any spare cash to save the Invincible, the £175m aircraft carrier which is being sold to Australia, amid controversy in both hemispheres.

The Intrepid has already been paid off and is now awaiting disposal, while the Fearless, now being used as a training ship for Dartmouth cadets, is scheduled to leave the fleet next year. Both ships have a built-in dock below decks, from which the Marines would float into battle on their assault craft. The alternative is for them to use roll-on, roll-off ferries

Hillhead by-election

A winner for the SNP — but not yet

From Jonathan Wills, Glasgow

The saltire flies proudly above the Scottish National Party's tiny, shabby shop front office in Dumbarton Road. Inside, the volunteers fall over each other in their eagerness to help.

By unfortunate coincidence the blue flag with the white St Andrews cross means, in international code, 'My vessel is stopped and making no way through the water'. That may have been appropriate three years ago, when the SNP was hammered in the North and only Mr Donald Stewart and Mr Gordon Wilson survived to tell Scotland's story to the Commons.

Not any more; a wary optimism is creeping back among the followers of the saltire, and the memory of that patient cave dwelling spider, Robert the Bruce's companion, is being dusted off.

Dumbarton Road for most of its length is the sort of place where "the polis" go around in pairs. It is clearly a place where Mr George Leslie feels very much at home. The SNP's candidate in the Hill head by-election is a local boy made good who still has the common touch for the mean streets of Partick west.

His veterinary practice may be in Shawlands, Hillhead's mirror image on the south side of the Clyde, but as he is an old boy of Hillhead High School it is helping his campaign, as is his cheery manner with punters and pollsters alike.



Mr George Leslie: The local boy made good

If being a good fellow were enough Mr Leslie would be home and dry. But this campaign is many-issued and fewer than a fifth of the voters appear to believe that a Scottish parliament would have more success than a Westminster one when tackling the intractable issues of unemployment, money supply bad housing and education cuts. "If we cannot carry Glasgow then the SNP measures will not work", says Mr Leslie, who is no stranger to political battles in this city.

The trouble is that when the going gets rough the Glaswegian working class has always turned to its traditional champion, the Labour Party, rather than to the SNP. Talking to Mr Leslie, one gets the distinct impression that the Scots exasperate him more than the English.

"I get upset", he admits, "at the Scots accepting that they should live in a country with total depression, decline and unemployment when we have so many resources that could be deployed. I get depressed at Scots saying they could not afford independence, they would not have the leader to do it — that *kind of parish pump* mentality, that lack of self-confidence that the Scots have today."

If the SNP had its way and the Scottish parliament returns to Edinburgh, what would Mr Leslie's politics be? "I don't know", he replies. "I suppose I would agree with the ideology of Robert McIntyre, our first SNP MP in 1945, which is that what is good for Scotland is good, full stop.

"I am certainly not in favour of Thatcherite monetarism, but I am not a Bennite either. What I do have is a track record in community politics. As a councillor I was advocating things like rehabilitating old tenements, upgrading branch railway lines in the city and setting up community councils, all accepted now but not when I was on Glasgow corporation."

Mr Leslie makes common cause with the Labour Party on devolution, If there is a majority of Scottish MPs for an assembly after the next election they should go ahead and form a Scottish parliament, he says.

What about Mr Roy Jenkins of the SDP? "If he had not been here I would have found this campaign twice as hard. The SNP bandwagon has loosened the allegiances of Labour and Tory voters, but *Mr Roy Jenkins* cannot win them over as an international statesman conferring his dignity on Hillhead."

Mr Leslie's failure to work out in detail the form of government policy that his independent Scotland should have will lose him few votes in Hillhead. The polls show that he is moving up fast. George Leslie should go far in politics, but probably not quite far enough to win this time.

Private Eye damages for libelled minister

By John Witherow

Mr Peter Blaker, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, obtained substantial damages and an apology from *Private Eye* yesterday for a libel *published in a satirical* magazine nearly two years ago.

Lord Justice Russell was told in a statement read in the High Court that the magazine alleged in May, 1980, that Mr Blaker, then Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, tried to obstruct further inquiries into the death of a Hongkong police inspector.

It is also claimed that he *refused* to answer *questions* about the matter put to him in Parliament by Mr Dennis Canavan, Labour MP for Stirlingshire, West, because the results of such an inquiry could damage his father's and family's interest in Hongkong.

Mr Richard Rampton, for the plaintiff, said the allegations were without foundation. Mr Blaker's father had died in 1965 and *Private Eye reported* his death in 1979.

Neither Mr Blaker nor any member of his family owns property in Hong Kong and he had not sought to obstruct inquiries into the death of Inspector John MacLennan.

Mr Rampton said: "the defendants now accept that their allegations amounted to an unjustified attack on Mr Blaker and ought never to have been published."

The defendants, comprising Mr Richard Ingrams, editor of *Private Eye*, the printers, distributors and publishers, "offer their apologies to Mr Blaker for the considerable distress and embarrassment their disgraceful allegations have caused," a joint statement said.

□ The High Court Libel action brought by the television producer Mr Desmond Wilcox, against *Private Eye* was adjourned yesterday until after Easter for his lawyers to consider the magazine's amended defence. Mr Wilcox is alleging libel in five articles published in 1975, when he headed the BBC's general features department.

Warning of more kennel raids despite sentences

One of the leaders of a raid on a kennels where dogs are bred for experiments said yesterday that similar raids will continue until the law on vivisection is changed.

Robert August, secretary of the Hunt Saboteurs Association, was speaking after he and seven others were given suspended prison sentences at Hereford Crown Court for their part in an early morning raid on the Harewood Park Kennels, near Ross-on-Wye, Hereford and Worcester, last April.

The court was told that 10 beagle puppies, worth £1,000, were stolen from the kennels. The animals have never been recovered.

August, aged 33, a computer manager, of Landcroft Road, East Dulwich, south London, said the beagles were now all family pets and steps had been taken to make sure thay could not be identified. He said he did not know where they were.

After the case he said: "I am not sorry I did it. I am only sorry I was caught. However, I shall not be able to take part in future raids because of the suspended sentence, and because I shall lose my job. But there is a growing number of people willing to take part in raids and they will certainly go on.

"The law on vivisection has not been changed for more than a hundred years and we shall continue with our activities until it is".

August and John Hale, aged 31, a fitter, of Rednal, Birmingham, and Aubrey Thomas, aged 24, an export agent, of The Brambles, West Drayton, Middlesex, who was treasurer of the Hunt Saboteurs Association, were each given 12-month prison sentences, suspended for 18 months and ordered to pay *£150 costs and £50 in fines.*

Richard Ferry, aged 30, of Wood Green; David Callender, aged 22, of Hale, Liverpool; Lynne Matthews, aged 26, of Warrington, Lancashire; Nigel Kennett, aged 36, of Ivor, Buckinghamshire; and Ann August, aged 37, of Landcroft Road, East Dulwich, were all given nine-month sentences, suspended for 18 months. Ferry and Thomas had denied conspi*racy to steal the* puppies. The others admitted theft.

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PARLIAMENT March 4 1982

Ne

de‚ly start on to‚ect satellite broadcasting

TELEVISION

The Government has decided in principle that Britain should make an early start with direct broadcasting by satellite (DBS) with the aim of having a service in operation in 1986, Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said in a statement in the Commons. It has concluded that because of the importance of making this early start the best course would be to have two channels initially.

Mr Whitelaw said: The House will recall the report of the Home Office study of DBS published last May. Reaction to that report has been largely constructive and positive. The Government now sees a need for early decisions if the industrial opportunities which DBS offers this country are to be grasped in good time, in a situation in which there will be keen international competition.

The Government has therefore decided, in principle, that this country should make an early start with DBS, with the aim of having a service in operation in 1986. Because of the importance of making this early start the Government has concluded that the best course would be a start with two channels initially; the number of channels could be increased up to the maximum of five channels permitted by international allocation, as and when demand justified it.

The services would be transmitted at powers sufficient to permit both individual reception and community reception with cable distribution. I intend to make a further announcement shortly about the future role of cable.

As regards finance, the Government expects the capital cost of providing the satellite system to be found in the private sector.

On the industrial side, various *interests in the aerospace and* related industries have shown that they are ready to play their part in this challenging new venture and we shall be working closely with them and with the domestic electronics industry to ensure that the economic benefits are effectively realized for the United Kingdom.

On the broadcasting side, it is clear that DBS must develop in a way that is consistent with our *existing broadcasting arrangements*, especially as regards supervision by a broadcasting authority and maintenance of proper programme standards.

The BBC has already put forward proposals for two DBS channels. One would be a subscription service including a substantial element of feature films and major sporting, cultural and other events not presently available for transmission on BBC 1 or BBC 2. The other would be a service which would draw on the best television programmes from around the world (and indeed from this country). This would be financed basically by licence fee revenue—which would probably include a supplemental licence fee for DBS.

The IBA and commercial television companies have also shown some interest in providing DBS services, but their plans are less well advanced. Additionally, more time will be needed to devise the right framework, which would be likely to involve legislation.

In these circumstances the Government believes that the right course, if the necessary early agreements are to be reached between satellite providers and users, is to authorise a go-ahead with the BBC proposals.

However, the Government attaches importance to the participation of commercial television companies in DBS. What we are now proposing would leave ample future opportunities open to them. The Government intends to press ahead with the necessary preparatory work, and would be ready to introduce legislation for the purpose as necessary.

Meanwhile the immediate requirement is for the BBC and the British space industry to enter into discussions with a view to constructing and agreeing detailed proposals.

I commend these decisions to the House as a sound foundation for a development with major *significance* for this country's industrial and employment prospects. The House will no doubt wish to have an opportunity of discussing them: the Leader of the House will be finding time for an early debate.

Dr Shirley Summerskill, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs (Halifax, Lab) said the proposals represented a significant step into totally new and rapidly changing area of broadcasting involving public money and an element of financial risk.

The fact that neither of the new channels will be financed out of advertising is (she went on) to be warmly welcomed. Commercial interests will be



Bryan: Is government reversing policy

absent. The BBC will continue to provide a truly public service financed by public money.

We would expect a White Paper before any legislation is introduced by the Government regarding the participation of commercial television companies in satellite broadcasting.

Mr Whitelaw: I cannot see that that should be necessary.

Sir Paul Bryan (Howden, C): At the time of the Broadcasting Bill, the Government's policy was to increase the choice of programmes by increasing the number of sources from which those programmes came. Is he reversing that policy?

Mr Whitelaw: The Government is not reversing anything. The BBC have put forward their detailed proposals far ahead of anyone else. They are in a position to sign up with those who will provide the hardware and we believe it is in the country's interests that they should do so.

Sir Hugh Fraser (Stafford and Stone, C): A statement on cable transmission arrangements is as important as the statement

Mr Whitelaw: I agree. The development of DBS and cable go hand in hand. There will be astatement on cable before we have the debate in the House.

Mr Kenneth Warren (Hastings, C): To limit the service to two channels from the start by decree denies the opportunity to expand as fast as is commercially possible. There should be no technical reason why more channels should not be available and therefore more companies come forward and make the whole system cheaper.

Mr Whitelaw: We believe it was right to make a modest start to get ahead of our competitors. If we can move further and faster forward we will do so.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab): Can he guarantee that he will not be making Lord Rees-Mogg, head of this quango?

Mr Michael Morris (Northampton, South, C): in discussion with the IBA would he ensure that it is not just existing ITV companies that are considered? There might be a whole spectrum of other commercial interests to be taken into account.

Mr Whitelaw: If we are to make an immediate start and sign up a consortium, it is only the BBC at the present time which is able to do it.

Thatcher: S Africa tour a mistake

PM'S QUESTIONS

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, endorsed at question time what Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, had said about the South African cricket tour by England cricketers perhaps being a mistake. She had been pressed by Labour MPs to reply "Yes" or "No" when asked whether she condemned the tour.

Mr Jack Straw (Blackburn, Lab): Her mealy mouthed, half-hearted fence-sitting comments in this House on Tuesday and in a written answer yesterday strongly suggest, whatever her sports minister and Lord Carrington may say or think, she privately condones this tour and the racist regime. She should give a straight answer to a straight question. Does she condemn this tour? Yes or No.

Mrs Thatcher: I am neither mealy mouthed about upholding the Gleneagles agreement nor about the right of freedom of people in this country to travel.

I have given a written answer. I have nothing further to add. I endorse what Lord Carrington said today when he said perhaps this tour is a mistake.

Mr Michael Foot, *Leader of the Opposition* (Ebbw Vale, Lab): Her Tuesday answer so far from assisting the situation, only made it worse (Conservative shouts of "Rubbish"). Her further equivocal answer here today continues to make it worse. Without any equivocation, does she agree with what the Foreign Secretary said on the matter and repudiates what her backbenchers have said?

Mrs Thatcher: Mr Foot cannot have been listening. I endorsed Lord Carrington on this matter in my last reply.

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk, Lab): Can she not just condemn the cricket tour of South Africa and those Conservative MPs who support it?

Mrs Thatcher: I have answered so many questions. I have nothing to add to the answers I have previously given.

Mr James Wellbeloved (Bexley, Erith and Crayford, SDP): Has she noted the double standards of those who pay lip service to the condemnation of the Soviet invasion and occupation of Afghanistan fields of Moscow?

Will she avoid making the same error by clearly condemning those who have offended people's decency by taking their cricket bats to South Africa?

Mrs Thatcher: I have endeavoured to apply the same rules. We try to dissuade people from going to those events which we think are contrary to the Gleneagles agreement or, in the case of Afghanistan, have given aid and comfort to Soviet Russia, we have tried to dissuade them in both cases. Our only powers are powers of persuasion. People are ultimately free to decide for themselves.

When next week's business was being considered, Mr Foot said amid Conservative protests that some MPs were deeply concerned to ensure that the Commonwealth Games went ahead.

He continued: Even if some Conservatives do not care, we think it would be a tragedy if these games were injured or impaired. That is the real danger, that England could be excluded.

The Prime Minister should make a fresh statement in the House at the beginning of next week in the hope that we may rescue something from the situation. That is her duty. It is made all the more necessary by the form of her answers this week.

Mr Foot was interrupted by laughter from some Conservatives and he said: They do not give a damn for the Commonwealth Games or to the reputation of the House of Commons.

Mr Frances Pym, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, replied: Mr Foot has some rather subjective judgments on what MPs feel about certain matters.

I am sure he is right about the Commonwealth Games and that the whole House wishes them to go ahead. I cannot find time for a debate on the tour of South Africa.

Mr John Carlisle (Luton, West, C): On sport in South Africa, perhaps we could have a debate on Mr Denis Howell (Birmingham Small Heath, Lab, and Labour spokesman on sport) who has been passing most of the week pursuing his particular sport behind the iron curtain in Russia.

Mr Andrew Faulds (Warley, East, Lab): He should consider the need for a debate on British sportsmen going to play in apartheid South Africa. It would give Mrs Thatcher an opportunity to clarify her own muddled thinking and prejudiced mind on the matter.

Mr Pym: The Prime Minister made it clear yesterday. I do not think I can find time for a debate.

Mr David Winnick (Walsall, North, Lab): A Government statement is necessary on the cricketers going to South Africa because of the Prime Minister's shameful refusal to condemn the tour.

We need to know from Mrs Thatcher her real views and if she endorses the sentiments of the fellow travellers and apologists for apartheid on those benched.

Mr Pym: I have nothing to add to what has been said today.

Wellbeloved: Double standards

Cheaper oil is good news for industry

The reduction in the price of North Sea oil by $4 a barrel was good news for industry because it would lower industrial costs and help to reduce inflation, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said.

Mr Winston Churchill (Stretford, C) had congratulated her on taking the initiative among the oil producing nations to procure a sharp downward trend in oil prices

This provides not only Great Britain but the western industrialized world (he said) with the *opportunity* of breaking out of the vicious economic circle of recent years into what Iain Macleod called the virtuous circle in which lower inflation leads to economic expansion, generating greater resources and savings which in turn lead to lower taxation.

Mrs Thatcher: It is also good news for increasing world trade *as money which would otherwise* have been spent on oil will now be available for the purchase of other goods, and our industry is in a good position to take advantage of that expansion.

Answering further questions, she said: We should hope that from the recent fall in oil prices we are in a position to try to get some expansion and we will continue our policy of supporting and encouraging development of *new industries and expanding* small business.

Sir William Clark (Croydon South, C): If there was a £9,000m reflationary budget next week, next year the PSBR would go up by £6,000m which would increase interest paid which would hit industry, jobs and the rest. For every one point increase in interest charges, it means the cost of the national debt goes up £1,000m per annum.

Mr Thatcher: I wholly agree if there were to be an increase in expenditure of that amount to be added to the borrowing requirement interest rates would go up sharply indeed.

I cannot precisely confirm his figures, but I *share* his general view and would point out that the payments of interest on debt have gone up *enormously*. They were about £2,000m in 1970. This *year they will be £15,000m which* is higher than we spend either on the national health or education services.

Thatcher silent on MI5 computer

The Prime Minister refused to be drawn into answering questions about an MI5 computer, stating that it was a long hallowed practice not to comment in the Commons on security matters.

Mr Michael Meacher (Oldham, West, Lab) had said: Has she seen reports today that MI5 has set up a gigantic secret computer in Mayfair which is two and a half times the size of the already vast British National Computer, and that MI5 has been given unlimited access to other Government department files to build up a comprehensive national filing system on each individual?

This is already 1984 writ large. Will she *legislate* to ensure that this monster is checked by a security consultant appointed by an *independent* data protection authority?

□ Mr Meacher also asked the *Home Secretary why he was not* prepared to support the Private Investigators Bill put forward to his department by the Association of British Investigators in view of the fact that it satisfied his requirements for self-regulation.

Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State, Home Office, in a written *reply*, said: We considered the need for statutory control of *private investigators as part of our review of the private security* industry, and concluded that the case for such control had not been made out.

We think it is preferable to support and encourage self-regulation. By this we mean voluntary action, not the statutory imposition of requirements backed by penal sanctions. We have looked at this again recently, and our view remains unchanged.

High awards by wage councils anger firms

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, has written to two wages councils drawing their attention to the *anger among a number of small* businesses at the size of the wage awards they had given The Prime Minister, disclosed.

Mr John Townend (Bridlington, C) said there was a growing concern among small businessmen at the reluctance of the Government to reform or abolish wages councils.

Rate grants system in inner London damages Tories

By David Walker

Renewed criticism of the grants system devised by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, is certain, after the announcement by Conservative controlled councils in inner London of rates increases substantially higher than in *the inner boroughs* controlled by Labour.

Tower Hamlets council, which is Labour controlled, yesterday said it would ask its ratepayers for 9 per cent more in 1982-83. That compares with the 17 per cent figure for the commercial rate increase recommended yesterday by the finance committee of the City of London, *whose members* stand on no party platforms but pride themselves on financial rectitude.

Tower Hamlets is one of the Labour-controlled councils in London that, classified by Mr Heseltine as "overspenders", have gained from his grants distribution for 1982-83, an election year for the London boroughs.

A similar pattern *holds* throughout inner London. Domestic ratepayers will pay nearly 21 per cent more in Conservative Westminster, 7 per cent extra in neighbouring Camden, which is Labour controlled; Wandsworth, Conservative, will probably next week vote a rates increase of about 15 per cent, while neighbouring Lambeth, Labour, plans a cut in its rate of 1 per cent; rates in Southwark, Labour, will rise by 10 per cent while Conservative Kensington and Chelsea's will increase by 25 per cent.

Conservative councillors a their *allies on* the Government's back benches are doubly angry because the *portion of the rate attributable* to spending by the boroughs has been cut in several cases.

Wandsworth council hopes to cut its "borough rate", the amount it needs to pay for the services it provides, — by more than 40 per cent. It blames the rises on the increased amounts demanded by the Inner London Education Authority (ILEA) and the Greater London Council, both Labour-controlled.

Mr Patrick Roney, chairman of the City of London's finance committee, said: "The severe *demands placed* on City of London ratepayers are caused by the direct result of heavy precepts by ILEA and the GLC and the resulting grant losses".

But Labour-controlled boroughs have cut their borough rates, too, Tower Hamlets by 17 per cent. Even adding the precepts, they are planning to ask ratepayers for *proportionately less* in total.

An explanation was given earlier this week by Mr Nicholas Freeman, leader of Kensington and Chelsea council, when he announced that rates would rise, but through no fault of the Conservatives.

"It will be noticed that for other boroughs the increase is lower than ours. The explanation is to be found by appreciating that only a relatively small part of the total bill is attributable to this borough, whereas in the high-spending boroughs the borough proportion of the rate bill is very much greater than is the case in this borough."

Several of the Labour boroughs gained unexpectedly from the grants formula, a point acknowledged by Mr Heseltine in the past when he said it illustrated the objective nature of his system. *Lambeth's finances* improved markedly as a result of the adjustments to the rate support system made last year to give more aid to designated inner city areas.

Other boroughs, such as Camden, which receives no grant, have used cash reserves to protect ratepayers. Some councils have cut spending.

Williams urges jobs for blacks

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

Positive discrimination to encourage blacks into the *public services* was advocated last night by Mrs Shirley Williams, joint leader of the Social Democratic Party.

She said that public purchasing and government contracts should be made conditional on companies having clear and positive non-discriminatory employment policies.

Mrs Williams, delivering the Gaitskell memorial lecture at Nottingham University, did not say such policies would operate and made no mention of legislation, but she said their success would depend on effective monitoring.

"Many of us in central and local government wrongly believed that the different *races in Britain would settle* down to a tolerant acceptance of one another," she said, but a growing number of young people were being alienated from society.

Unemployment among them was 40 per cent, or even higher, and was concentrated among the unskilled, the less qualified and the ethnic minorities.

"An underclass of young people is emerging, a lost generation.

Authoritarian approaches *to* the problem "may buy time, and we need to buy time. But they offer no solutions, and they threaten the fragile structure of a democracy based on consent, by putting a lid on the cauldron."

Industry is asked to aid wildlife

By Hugh Clayton

Dr David Bellamy yesterday moderated the wide-eyed *enthusiasm* and fruity tones *that have become his trade* mark as the "Botanic Man" of television and appealed to industry for money.

He told his audience at the Institute of Directors in London that cash was needed for thousands of wildlife conservation projects. "Without the natural resources of the world the future of all the multinationals will be pretty bleak", he said at the launching of a Conservation Foundation financed by the Pitney Bowes office machinery group.

Mr Bellamy made clear that he had not come to criticize business tycoons, but to applaud them. He had seen the success with which banks, insurance houses and car, oil, and food companies had sponsored nature conservation and education, and he said he wanted industry to do more.

Mr T. J. Gilligan, Pitney Bowes vice-president for European operations, said the foundation would hold a register of projects waiting for help. "If a sponsor can be shown how his donations can help a conservation effort and provide a public relations, marketing, and staff relations advantage, then the donating company can obtain a better return."

Profits made by Pitney Bowes from disease-resistant *strains of elms developed for* the group in the United *States will be used to finance* the foundation.

Prosser 'was crushed to death by crippling blow'

Mr Barry Prosser died in Winson Green Prison, Birmingham, *from a crippling* blow to the stomach caused by one or more people, a murder trial jury was told yesterday.

Dr Derek Barrowcliffe, a Home Office pathologist, told Leicester Crown Court that it was "highly, highly unlikely" that Mr Prosser's injuries were self-inflicted and he ruled out the possibility that they were caused by a fall over a chamberpot.

Mr Prosser, aged 32, was found dead in his cell on August 19, 1980. The court heard that he died from a burst stomach and a perforated gullet.

Dr Barrowcliffe said Mr Prosser was bruised both internally and externally from head to toe. It was most *likely* that more than one person was responsible, although it was possible that he had been taken off guard by a blow to his genitals and reduced to a "crippled hulk" by one man.

Melvyn Jackson, aged 33, Howard Price, aged 25, and Eric Smith, aged 33, all officers at the prison, deny murder.

The *prosecution* says the three denied entering Mr Prosser's cell on the night he died before going in to administer an injection with discipline officers called by Mr Jackson. But Mr Douglas Draycott, QC, for the prosecution, has told the court *that* a prisoner *will* give evidence that the three had left the cell earlier with red faces.

Dr Barrowcliffe said yesterday: "It certainly seems as if he was already injured at the time the officers entered. He was found lying down moaning, groaning. I understand he was thirsty. This man had already received severe internal injuries."

Dr Barrowcliffe said that Mr Prosser died from a crush injury to the upper part of his abdomen. "The most likely cause was a heavy weight dropping with force and a great deal of velocity on the upper part of the abdomen."

One of 12 prison officers summoned by Mr Jackson to administer the injection to Mr Prosser said, there was no resistance or struggle.

Mr Barry Turner said Mr Jackson had briefed them beforehand; "The gist of it was that there was a potentially dangerous man, violent and big, and we were to administer an injection into his body. He just said we were to go in there and we needed to turn him on his stomach and restrain him and and hold him down."

The trial was adjourned until next Monday. The jury will today visit the cell in which Mr Prosser died.

Staining a problem for pet food

QUESTIONS

The Government would be supporting a Bill to increase penalties for trading in unfit meat, Mrs Peggy Fenner, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, *Fisheries* and Food, said.

Mr Norman Atkinson (Haringey, Tottenham, Lab) in the exchanges, asked what representations have been received from the pet food industry in regard to the staining of unfit meat?

Mrs Fenner: Representatives of the pet food industry have indicated that they would not be opposed to a requirement to stain material emanating from knackers' yards and unfit carcase meat (but not offals) emanating from slaughterhouses.

They have also commented on the type of stain which might be appropriate for this purpose.

Mr Atkinson: The House will be delighted with that positive response from the industry. Is she aware that although dogs are colour blind and therefore unable to distinguish between green and violet, any suggested staining proposals should take account that many pet owners could object to putting out violet or green coloured food for their pets?

Can *she* reassure pet owners that whatever the stain used, it may be decolourized by the pet food industry?

Mrs Fenner: We are considering what stain should be prescribed and we are taking account of the views of the pet food manufacturers that they would like the stain to be one which disappears when the meat is heat treated and therefore does not give an unacceptable appearance to the pet food. But we shall certainly see the stain is immediately identifiable on raw meat.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, *Lab): Has she had a chance to see* the letter from a worker at Heathrow in regard to the illegal *transportation* of unfit meat via Bombay and Bahrain? Is she prepared to take action to see this illegal action is stopped?

Mrs Fenner: The Government is most concerned that trade in unfit meat should be stopped. We are preparing meat sterilization regulations with a degree of urgency in order to stop any illegal trade in unfit meat and we shall be supporting his Bill to increase the penalties for these offences.

□ The Food Standards Committee has been invited to consider and advise on the need for specific controls over the composition and labelling of mince, Mrs Fenner said in a written reply.

She said the review would cover all types of raw minced meat including frozen mince. Particular attention would be paid to the fat content and description of the product."end

Overfishing condemned by minister

The way some countries were exceeding internationally agreed fishing quotas was thoroughly unsatisfactory and effective conservation had to be internationally agreed and internationally enforced, *Mr Alick* **Buchanan-Smith**, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said during questions in the Commons.

He was also deeply concerned about the practice of foreign fishing vessels registering in the United Kingdom in order to take part of the United Kingdom's total allowable catch, he told Mr **John Mackay (Argyll, C)** who asked what Government steps were being taken to prevent this situation.

Mr Buchanan-Smith explained that the Secretary of State for Trade (Mr John Biffen) who was responsible for registration, was seeking to ensure that owners of certain fishing boats were properly entitled to claim British registration and their vessels properly complied with the rules that such registration imposed.

Mr Mackay: That will be warmly welcomed. Will he press on the Board of Trade that they do something about this practice, which causes great annoyance to the fishing industry that people should so abuse the rules and regulations and causes annoyance to the British public who do not like to see foreigners coming *in and playing our rules so* unfairly?

Mr Buchanan-Smith: This is a matter about which I am deeply concerned because the last year has seen a growth, particularly of former Spanish vessels.

In addition to what Mr Biffen is doing already, There is a review taking place of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894. A consultation document has been issued, and the fishing industry invited to comment.

I shall be working very closely with Mr Biffen on this because it does need to be dealt with resolutely.

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, Off UU): Has he taken note that there have been gross excesses of the catches over some of the quotas which were informally agreed last October, and of the particular countries whose boats were responsible for the most serious of these excesses?

Mr Buchanan-Smith: I have indeed and I regard as thoroughly unsatisfactory the way some of these proposed quotas have been exceeded by particular countries.

The Government has made its view perfectly clear on this to the EEC Commission and this underlines that if we are going to have effective conservation we must have it on an internationally agreed basis and internationally enforced.

Dutch subsidies

Mr Peter Walker, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said that he was expecting — *perhaps this coming week* — an agreement which he hoped would be permanent on Dutch heating subsidies to horticulturists about which British growers have been complaining. If agreement was not reached at the EEC Council of Agriculture Ministers on March 15, he said, legal action would be taken against the Dutch.

Next week's business

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Timetable motion on the Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Bill, Canada Bill, third reading.
Tuesday: Budget. Lloyd's Bill, third reading.
Wednesday and Thursday: Continuation of Budgets debate.
Friday: Private member's motion on employment and educational opportunities for young people.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Monday: Travel Concessions (London) Bill and Administration of Justice Bill, second readings. Deer (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill, committee.
Tuesday: Civic Government *(Scotland) Bill, report, second* day. Debate on Pitcairn Island.
Wednesday: Debate on the national health service.
Thursday: Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, committee, first day.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private members' motions on unemployment *in Kent and on test-tube babies.*

Coal's future lies in expanded markets

COAL BILL

The Government had confidence in the coal industry's future potential, and its commitment was expressed in the Coal Industry Bill, which increased the National Coal Board's borrowing limits to £4,500m or, by order, to £5,000m, Mr John Moore, Under-Secretary of State for Energy, said when moving the third reading of the Bill.

He said the increase in the board's borrowing powers proposed in the Bill should be sufficient to sustain the Board's capital investment programme at an appropriate level until 1983-84. The NCB's capital expenditure approval for 1982-83, at £886m, would ensure that their substantial investment programme of £805m this year, continued at broadly the same level.

The industry had to expand existing markets and to find new ones, and to supply them with coal at competitive prices. There was a lot more which could be done, especially in the industrial market. Coal did not have a monopoly; it had to compete with other fuels on commercial terms. There were further possibilities *in the longer term — the supply* of feedstock for chemical plants and other markets.

Pit closures were inevitable in an extractive industry. However, providing the industry could seize the opportunities for growth which were available to it, there would be a corresponding need for opening new capacity at both new and existing mines.

This was the pattern which *Plan for Coal* envisaged, though it was clear that the opportunities for coal were some years farther off than envisaged.

The effect on the board's finances of the recent improvement in productivity had been more than offset by falls in NCB's sales and a corresponding increase in stocks.

The main selling point must be the competitive pricing of coal along with reliability of supply. The board needed to demonstrate judicious management of the resources available to it, and in particular to ensure its *investment projects were sound.*

Mr Alexander Eadie, an Opposition spokesman (Midlothian, Lab) said the delay in the development of the Vale of Belvoir in North East Leicestershire had reached the proportions of a national scandal. The Government should make an announcement to go ahead not just in the interests of the miners, but also those of the future economic recovery of the country.

Eadie: Belvoir delay a scandal

There had been a propaganda effort by Mr Ronald Butt, *The Times* columnist, who was wellknown as representing the conscience of the Tory Party. The article was so heavily biased *it brought a response from Mr* Joe Gormley, President of the NUM, who did a demolition job.

Mr Gormley pointed out the inspector at the public inquiry did consider a huge weight of evidence. Mr Butt left the impression most of it came from the objectors. In fact those who spoke in favour of development included the Department of Energy, the European Energy Commission, the CEGB, and the two county councils involved.

Mr Butt claimed 4,000 properties would be at risk because of subsidence damage. Expert evi*dence based on the experience of* other coal fields suggested two-thirds of all properties would not be affected at all and only 100 would suffer anything more than slight damage.

Some new railway buildings would be necessary but the only development within the vale would be the reinstatement of track on a disused line. There would be no permanent loss of agricultural land as a result of *waste disposal* from the mines as only 3 per cent of the total land area of the coal field would be occupied by the mine sites.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) said that interest rates would consume all that the Government was giving to the coal industry. The Government was not giving the industry anything. *It* was just *hanging* more debts around its neck.

It was a tragedy when *subsidies were being given to the* coal industry in the Common Market that the Government was not giving any opportunity for the industry to breathe and compete with Germany, France and Belgium.

Mr Michael Welsh (Don Valley, Lab) said greater efforts should be made to increase exports of coal, particularly to Third World countries.

Mr Raymond Powell (Ogmore, Lab) *said* the *Welsh* coalfield needed the development of a new deep mine at Margam. The Government should discuss it with the NCB and the NUM as a matter of urgency.

The Bill was read the third time.

Bills remove barriers to marriage

HOUSE OF LORDS

Two personal Bills, the object of which was to enable people related by marriage but not by blood to marry, received a second reading in the House of Lords.

The first, the John Francis Dare and Gillian Loder Dare (Marriage Enabling) Bill, was introduced by Lady Wootton of Abinger (Lab) who recalled that in the past three years four Bills had been presented to the House which had sought to enlarge the scope of relationships within which it was permissible to marry, particularly those who were connected by marriage but not by blood.

John Dare, aged 66, and Gillian Dare, aged 49, wished to marry but were unable to do so because of the law which prevented stepfather and stepdaughter marrying.

Lord Elwyn-Jones, for the Opposition, said this was a matter which required the intervention of the House, in the interests of compassion and decent human relationships, to remove the legal impediment to the marriage of these two petitioners which imposed *hardship* upon them and served no purpose of public policy.

The Bishop of London (the Rt Rev Graham Leonard) said it was accepted that cases might arise where it was right that such marriages should take place.

The Archbishop of Canterbury had announced the intention to set up a committee to advise on this matter to see whether some alternative to the personal Bill procedure could be devised.

There would be general sympathy for the two people concerned and in the circumstances it was right to support the Bill. Lord Belstead, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said it was widely recognized that the personal Bill procedure left something to be desired.

In the second case, the Hugh Small and Norma Small (Marriage Enabling) Bill, Lord Lloyd of Kilgerran (L), who moved the second reading, said the object was to enable the couple to be married although they were stepson and stepmother. There were no ties of blood.

Technically, Hugh was the stepson of Norma, but at no time had she ever stood in loco parentis to him. They were mature adults of equal age and there was no ethical, moral, religious or social objection to marriage between them. Such a marriage would be for their common good and that of Norma's two daughters.

Both Bills were read a second time.

The Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Bill was read the third time and passed.

Inquiry into research assistants

SECURITY

Mr Francis Pym, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, *explained* during questions about forthcoming business why he had instituted an *inquiry* into the employment of research assistants in the Commons.

He said: A number of allegations have been made and I thought it right to institute some inquiries. I have asked the Services Committee to undertake this. There are security implications.

Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, C) had asked for clarification of the position of research assistants. He said that many *complaints were being passed to* MPs about the presence of strange people in the building and they seemed to work strange hours. Many MPs were concerned that the facilities of the House were being abused.

Mr Clinton Davis (Hackney Central, Lab): There is need for guidelines on employment of research assistants. There has been much unpleasant speculation and defamatory observations have been made about hard-working and decent American students who are here to study and help MPs. They should not be made scapegoats for inadequate research conditions and facilities.

Mr Pym: I do not wish to anticipate what will be discovered in the investigation. But I am sure it should be looked at if only to satisfy ourselves that in some respects the present arrangements are satisfactory and if they are not, in places, then we can do something about it.

Mr Guy Barnett (Greenwich, Lab): Will the inquiry deal with the adequacy or inadequacy of facilities for research assistants?

Mr Pym: Yes, that is relevant. I have had quite a lot of criticism that in some cases a strain is being put on existing facilities not justified by the nature of the inquiries.

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Judges get new power to defer sentences

By Frances Gibb

MPs yesterday agreed to new powers for judges and magistrates to suspend part of a prison sentence. This was despite a barrage of criticism from the Opposition and warnings that the prison population would rise to more than 45,000.

In the committee stage of the Criminal Justice Bill, Labour MPs, who were defeated on the new clause by 11 votes to nine, accused the Government of changing from its original policy of automatic parole for shorter sentence prisoners because of pressure from the judiciary.

Mr Alexander Lyon, Labour MP for York and a former Minister of State at the Home Office, said that lord Justice Lawton, a senioir judge in the Court of Appeal, had "blown the gaff" when he had spoken of a meeting of the appeal court judges with the Lord Chief Justice and indicated "how they had voted him slowly down".

"Five or six people in England decided that a proposal which was widely canvassed, supported by a considerable section of this House, certainly by the Home Office, and was the policy of the Home Secretary, should not be carried."

The reason, he said, was that the judiciary had intimated that if there was automatic parole for shorter-term prisoners who had served one third of their sentences, judges would increase sentences accordingly.

With that ultimatum, from the judiciary, Mr Alfred Dubs, Labour MP for Battersea South, added, the Home Office capitulated and the minister dramatically changed his view.

Dr Shirley Summerskill, a Labour home affairs spokesman, said to learn how legislation was drawn up through newspapers and television. No one had told them those consultations were taking place.

The new powers, which the Government hopes will ease overcrowding in prisons, come into force on March 29, by the implementation of a section in the Criminal Law Act, 1977, which has never been activated.

Provisions in the Criminal Justice Bill will make the use of the powers more flexible by cutting from six to three months the minimum sentence that can be partly suspended and cutting from six weeks to 28 days the period that an offender must spend in custody.

Bodies opposed to the new powers, which include the Law Society, the Justice Clerks' Society and the National Association of Probation Workers, were cited by Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Ormskirk.

They feared the powers would lead to a rise in prison numbers, he said. Faced with borderline cases, courts would go for the easy option and give a partly suspended sentence rather than take the bolder step of a fully suspended, or non-custodial sentence.

Mr Kilroy-Silk, who is chairman of the all-party penal affairs group, abstained from the vote because he supported the intention behind the clause. He said Home Office research had shown that when suspended sentences were first introduced courts used them where previously they would have imposed a non-custodial sentence.

Replying for the Government, Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State at the Home Office, said one could not ignore the opinion of the judiciary, who were going to impose the sentences.

Mr Mayhew, who was responsible for the power being included in the Criminal Law Act in 1977 when an opposition member, said that although it had never been implemented much had changed since then.

There was evidence that the judiciary had learnt from their mistakes over the suspended sentences and there was a much wider appreciation of their proper use. It was a reasonable gamble to ensure that the new power would be properly applied.

□ An internal police inquiry into the death, in custody, of a man aged 26 will be shown on BBC Television next Monday in the Police series, filmed with the Thames Valley force.

The man, who was drunk, was found in his cell, flat on his back, unconscious and vomiting. Despite attempts at resuscitation by policemen, he was dead on arrival at hospital.

The issue for the police was not any question of ill treatment of the prisoner but whether standing orders covering such situations had been carried out.

Heathrow's volunteers speed the baggage

By Alan Hamilton

Passengers using terminal one at Heathrow have reported to British Airways that they have been able to collect their luggage more quickly since baggage handlers there went on strike nearly four weeks ago.

Airline officials also privately concede that passengers' complaints of pilferage have been almost non-existent, since the work was taken over by volunteers drawn from other departments of BA.

"I was out of the airport in half the time it would have taken me to collect by baggage from the bays", said a shuttle passenger who collected his suitcase direct from the aircraft hold.

Another of the scores who wrote to the airline said: "Grateful thanks for keeping the flights going and demonstrating how loyalty, common sense and an active conscience can show the foolish strikers up for what they are".

Far fewer complaints had come from customers about the strike than about the recent bad weather disruptions, the airline said. "Once they know what it is all about they are very understanding."

Mr Lindsay Todd, general manager at terminal one, confirmed yesterday that the airline's target of clearing 90 per cent of incoming passengers' baggage within 25 minutes was being achieved more often than by the regular staff.

Their enthusiasm was partly responsible, he said. But the main reason was that BA had given up handling mail and cargo on its domestic and European flights while the dispute lasted. Only about 10 per cent of short haul flights are being cancelled, and long haul services are not affected.

The 2,000 regular ramp staff, members of the Transport and General Workers' Union, are objecting to new rosters which they claim mean working from 17 to 30 extra days a year without extra pay.

About 350 volunteers a day, from aircraft captains to clerical staff, load, unload and clean aircraft, transport baggage and drive the tractors which position aircraft on the ground.

Mr Robert Macdonald, head of customer services, said the volunteers were well aware that the airline lost £140m last year. A "survival plan" aims to cut 3,000 jobs



Mr Michael Lock, a designer preparing a Surrealist style model (left) wearing a Schiaparelli dress for the new costume gallery at Brighton Museum. The gallery, which opens in April, will feature the creations of famous couturiers of the 1920-50 period, many presented by the original owners.

Prison governor loses Lords contempt appeal

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

A former governor of Albany Prison, Isle of Wight, was in contempt of court when he blocked a prisoner's High Court application, the House of Lords ruled yesterday.

Stephen Patrick Raymond, the prisoner, had tried to apply to have Mr Colin Honey committed for contempt after he stopped a letter from the prisoner to his solicitor.

The Lords ruled that Mr Honey was wrong to intercept the High Court application, but upheld the Divisional Court ruling that he had not been in contempt when he blocked the original letter. A cross-appeal by Raymond was dismissed.

Lord Wilberforce said there was nothing in the Prison Act, 1952, that conferred power to make regulations which would deny, or interfere with, the prisoner's basic right to unimpeded access to a court.

Lord Bridge of Harwich said the evidence failed to establish that the stopping of Raymond's letter to his solicitor effectively impeded him in giving instructions on the conduct of his defence at Camberwell Green Magistrates' Court, south London.

Mr Honey escapes a penalty, however. The Divisional Court made no order on the motion.

The Prison Department said it would carefully consider the judgment to see if there were any further implications for its procedures

After the Divisional Court voting, governors were told not to stop communications to courts issuing proceedings. The prison standing orders reflect that judgment, the department says.

Law Report, page 23

BIG GROWTH IN USE OF GATWICK

By Michael Baily
Transport Correspondent

Traffic through Gatwick grew by a quarter last year to make it the world's fourth biggest international airport after Heathrow, London, Kennedy, New York, and Frankfurt, it still had far fewer passengers than Heathrow, 10,700,000 compared with 26 million.

Gatwick has grown largely because many airlines were forced to go there when there was no room at Heathrow. Those airlines tended to be those which have produced more dynamic growth.

The trend is expected to continue despite the collapse of Laker, one of Gatwick's biggest users.

Charter traffic, on which Gatwick's fortunes were largely founded, remained virtually static last year, while scheduled services blossomed.

First shot fired in Welsh water war

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

Mr Dafydd Wigley, president of Plaid Cymru, yesterday returned to the Welsh Water Authority his unpaid bill for £267 for a year's domestic water supply and signalled the beginning of a campaign of civil disobedience in the principality.

Water charges are an emotive issue in Wales and the party is hoping that thousands of consumers will refuse to pay their water rates until "more realistic payments" are made by English authorities for their supplies from Welsh reservoirs.

Plaid Cymru considers that the issue cuts across the language divide and political affiliations and is urging people from all parties to withhold payment of their bills. Welsh Water Authority consumers are charged 30p in the pound, compared with the 14p and 17p paid respectively by customers of the Severn-Trent and North West authorities, both of which extract millions of gallons from reservoirs in Wales.

Dissatisfaction in the principality was heightened by the recent decision of the WWA to raise its charges to the average household by 18.3 per cent.

The WWA has asked the Severn-Trent Authority to pay £4.5m, three times the present charge, for the water it takes from Wales, but that has been rejected. Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, and Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, are now involved in the dispute.

Mr Edwards has agreed that the WWA be reorganized to make it more efficient but he is determined to resist calls for a centralized water authority on the lines of other nationalized industries.

Earlier this week MPs attending the parliamentary committee on Welsh affairs were told by Dr Roger Thomas, the Labour member for Carmarthen, that the issue of water charges could cause instability throughout the principality.

Boxing belts stolen

Cash and two championship belts worth £1,700 each have been stolen from the British Boxing Board of Control's London office. One of the belts was new. The other had been held by Charlie Magri, the former British flyweight champion.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Bailiffs on trail of bookworms

Bailiffs are being used deal with people Hampshire who fail to retur library books. In a three month experiment book worth £2,600 were recovered with £768 in fines and £11 for lost books.

Hampshire County Council has decided to make the bailiffs, who take 10 per cent of the debt recovered, a permanent feature of its library service.

Mr John Reynolds, who is in charge of administration for the country's 93 libraries, said that only a minority of missing books were caused by the forgetfulness. "Most of the people who keep library books do so deliberately.

If a book is not returned after two reminders we get in touch with the bailiff. I have known a person take a wheelbarrow load of overdue books to a mobile library."

Stricken ship worries MP

Mr Gordon Wilson, the Scottish National Party MP for Dundee East, yesterday called for an urgent government statement on the potential danger caused by the cargo ship Craigantlet, which is aground off the Galloway coast with a cargo of dangerous chemicals on board.

Mr Wilson said: "Highly poisonous chemicals have been washed into the sea and I want to find out what the Government is doing to lessen the danger and prevent such an occurrence happening again".

The Cypriot container vessel went aground off Portpatrick on Friday. Some of the deck cargo, including containers of chemical waste, has since been washed into the sea and police have warned people to stay away.

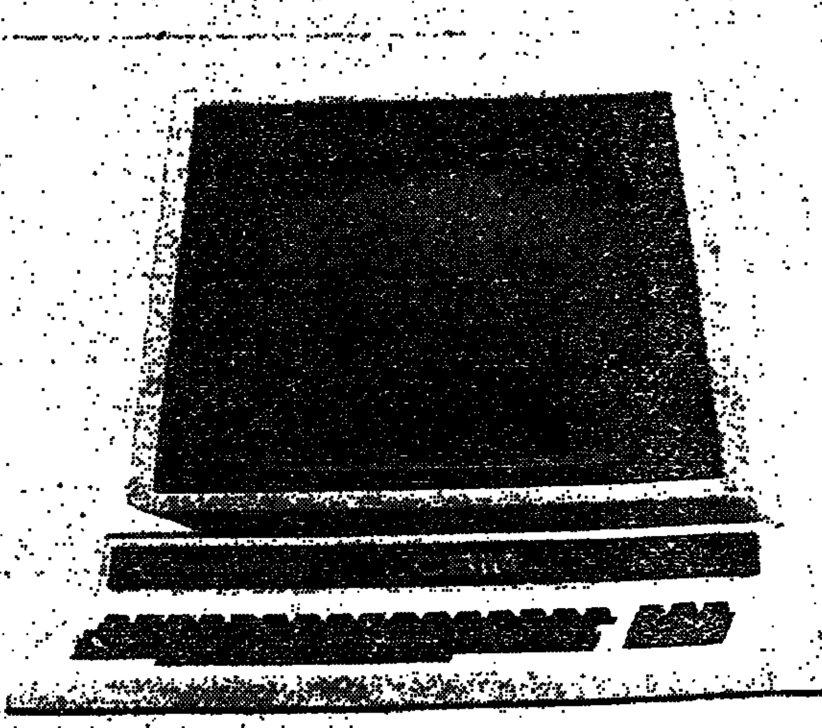
Child murder charge remand

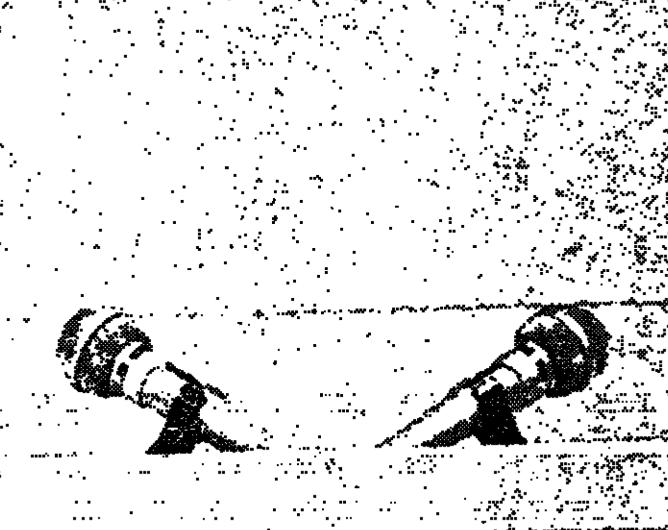
Martin Edward Beale, aged 49, was remanded in custody yesterday charged with murdering his daughter Rowan, aged two, at Hope Cove, Devon, on Tuesday.

Mr Beale, an unemployed craftsman, of no fixed address, is to appear again at Kingsbridge Magistrates' Court on Wednesday.

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It seems that even hardened money men who complain about cash flowing like treacle are very happy to invest in the PET, Commodore's microcomputer.

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Anger in Spain to killing by Civil Guards

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, March 4

Spain's Civil Guards are once again at the centre of a popular outcry in Andalusia after the fatal shooting of an 18-year-old youth and the serious wounding of his cousin at Trebujena 20 miles north of Jerez, the sherry town. They had been riding a motorcycle and failed to heed a Civil Guard's order to halt.

Last night, after the burial of the youth, Ignacio Montoya, an unemployed labourer, all the region's leftwing forces headed by the Socialist Party of Andalusia, combined to issue a statement rejecting the official version of the shooting as "incorrect, and an insult to the vicitm". They demanded an investigation by Parliament.

The local Civil Guard authorities said a Civil Guard on duty outside the paramilitary organization's barracks identified the youths as two suspected theives denounced earlier in the day by a local farmer's wife.

The Civil Guard, according to the official version, fired one warning shot into the air. When the motorcycle failed to stop he fired three more shots at the youths. Ignacio Montoya was killed instantly, and his cousin was found by doctors later to have been shot through the spine.

Local people maintained that the youths failed to stop because they did not want to get a traffic fine. They pointed out that one hour elapsed between the woman's denunciation being communicated to Civil Guards on duty, and the two youths riding past the barracks. The youth's motorcycle possessed a mechanical part which the farmer's wife had noted was missing from the thieves' vehicle.

Last May Andalusia was the scene of a tragic error by Civil Guards which ended with the discovery of three burnt corpses on an Almeria roadside. They belonged to three young men with no criminal records who had been detained and interrogated by Civil Guards as suspected members of ETA, the Basque terrorist organization.

Señor Juan Roson, the Interior Minister, subsequently told Parliament that "irregularities" had occurred

The latest blunder by the Civil Guards, who are widely feared and hated in Andalusia caused all banks, shops, bars, schools and even public offices to close all day yesterday in Trebujena following a protest motion passed by all parties on the town council.

The Civil Governor of Seville replied by imposing a fine of 500,000 pesetas (about £2,700) on the town's leftwing mayor, as well as fines on local shopkeepers.

□ Madrid: A deposition given in court today linked Major-General Alfonso Amada, former deputy Army Chief of Staaff to the right-wing military plot to overthrow the Spanish governments despite earlier written testimony from the ex-adviser to King Juan Carlos that he was not part of the conspiracy (AP reporter).

The deposition was given in the ninth day of the court martial trying General Armada, 31 other military men and one civilian for military rebellion in the attempted coup a year ago.

A deposition by Brigadier-General Manuel Prieto, of the Civil Guard said the leader of rebellious Civil Guards claimed he was acting on the orders of General Armada.

Crisis in Central America

Catholic church caught in the crossfire

From Paul Ellman
Guatemala City, March 4

Caught in the crossfire between left and right,the Roman Catholic Church in Central America is heading towards a big crisis, particularly over its role in the two strife-torn nations of El Salvador and Guatemala.

At the centre of the debate presently disturbing the church is the question of how far it should go in spreading the Christian doctrines of human dignity and brotherly love without becoming involved in revolutionary political movements whose members include Marxists.

Critics on the right, both political and ecclesiastical, argue that the church has already gone too far and is encouraging the spread of communism. Critics on the left accuse it of only surface commitment to social change.

This commitment stemmed originally from a desire to halt the spread of Marxist ideology. After Vatican II from 1962 to 1965, the Latin American church as a whole agreed to work to improve the lot of its adherents, particularly the impoverished inhabitants of rural areas. The church found itself in direct competition with those trying to foster the ideals of the Cuban revolution, seen as a model for Latin American nations.

As a consequence priests in El Salvador, for example, went to live in rural areas, introducing villagers for the first time to the idea that they could liberate themselves from a brutish existence dominated by the harsh rule of the National Guard.

Not surprisingly, many of the guerrillas fighting in El Salvador still profess to be Christian Democrats opposed to the party's decision under President José Napoleón Duarte to share power with the military.

In Guatemala priests brought a similar message to the Indians who, while they make up 60 per cent of the population, live on the margins of the country's life.

The mounting political violence in these two countries over the past two years has not spared the church, which has seen nine of its workers murdered in El Salvador and 12 in Guatemala, which has also banned foreign missionaries from entering the country.

The most spectacular attack on the church was the assassination in 1980 at the altar of San Salvador Cathedral of Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero y Galdámez, who was an outspoken critic of the behaviour of the Salvadorean military.

Under strong pressure, not only from the right but also from the Christian Democratic Party, his successor, Acting Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas, has neen more circumspect, preferring to address himself in general terms to the need to "detoxify" El Salvador of violence.

Church circles, however, report that even this may not be enough to assuage the right and there is growing pressure, inside and outside the church, for Mgr Rivera y Damas not to be confirmed in his post but for the archdiocese to be given to a non-Salvadorean

The right has been encouraged by last week's public admonishment by Pope John Paul II of the Jesuits for their radical activities, which have often strayed from the conservative positions adopted by the Pope.

The Jesuits, who total about 300 in Central America, have long been among the foremost proponents of the so-called "theology of liberation" which, right-wingers claim, differs little from Marxist doctrines.

"Before they used to see a Christian Democrat behind every Jesuit. Now they see at best a Social Democrat or, at worst, a Marxist," commented a member of the order, which has been threatened with outright expulsion from both El Salvador and Guatemala. "It's only because we are for a social situation which provides reforms and justice."

While the church's efforts to improve the social conditions of its followers come under fire from the right, the Marxist left in Nicaragua has broken publicly with the hierarchy there.

Archbishop Miguel Obando y Bravo of Nicaragua last June warned that "after two years of hope, our revolution is heading towards Marxism on the Cuban model".

The Archbishop was a persistent critic of the late Nicaraguan dictator, Anastasio Somoza, who was overthrown in 1979. Lately he has been attacking the Sandinistas, who overthrew the dictatorship, for violating the human rights of the Miskito Indian population.

The revolutionary Government in Managua has resettled forcibly in the centre of the country more than 8,000 Miskitos, whose previous home was on the Pacific coast near the frontier with Honduras, alleging that they were collaborating with anti-Sandinista guerrillas.

The Sandinistas have asked the Vatican to send a mission of inquiry to look into the activities of the church in Nicaragua.

The fear that church unity could be shattered because of events in El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua brought a dire warning from Archbishop Román Arrieta Villalobos of Costa Rica, who is also chairman of the Episcopal Council of Central America and Panama.

Warning that the church could end up unable to preach its message of conciliation, and clearly hoping that the right and left will not force a schism, the Archbishop said: "I cannot accept the idea of support for violent change, since Christians have other ways. There, nevertheless, have to be changes in social structures, because injustice is the cause of the problem, but armed struggle is not the way".



War toll: Salvadorean guerrillas collecting taxes from traffic on the Pan American highway

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Reagan claims US economy is turning

From Michael Hamlyn, Los Angeles, March 4

President Reagan went to his home state of California yesterday and decided to accentuate the positive. He declared that his Administration's economic policies were already beginning to work.

Addressing an audience of conservative California local government officials he launched his most powerful defence so far of his new federalism proposal.

Looking on the bright side, he told the audience, which included his daughter Maureen, a candidate in the Senate elections later this year, of the indicators pointing towards his success. "Inflation is down", he said. "In fact, it has fallen faster than anyone predicted, 8.9 per cent average for 1981 and only about 4.5 per cent for the past three months.

"Savings are up and the main incentives to save are just coming on line. What does that mean to the economy? Well, a 1 per cent increase in personal savings and $20,000m (£11,000m) in the investment pool of available capital.

"The prime interest rate, while still too high, has declined by 20 per cent. There may be some minor fluctuations, but the interest rate trend line is downward."

He declared that the economy was now poised for recovery and added: "It does prove that the medicine is beginning to work."

The President set about rallying the defence of his budget proposals which are being attacked on all sides, even by his friends.

He admitted concern over the nearly $100,000m budget deficit he is proposing. "It's certainly taking its toll on the nerves of those on Capitol Hill", he said. But he defended that too, pointing out that past deficits represented a far larger proportion of gross national product than his proposals.

"In the years we were coming out of the 1974 recession, deficits averaged 3.5 per cent of Gross National Product. Our projected deficit — big as it is — will only be 2.7 per cent of GNP".

Then he broadened the budget deficit argument into a wide ranging defence of his new federalism proposals, linking the increased federal spending to the "expanding federal monolith".

He defended the concept of returning governmental decision to local authorities with appropriate quotations from Thomas Jefferson, Chief Justice John Marshall, Calvin Coolidge and Will Rogers.

The new federalism so far has failed to excite much interest among the American public. The main fear of the proposal has been that it would be a cover for cutting back spending programmes, but Mr Reagan and his supporters have been at pains to show that there will be no losers. "While there are no losers," Mr Reagan said today, "the people will be the winners".

The President referred to a column written by David Broder, a normally implacable enemy of Reaganism, writing in *The Washington Post*, the most hostile of the establishment newspapers.

He said: "A major news columnist recently pointed out some politicians and pundits don't take the issue of federalism seriously. Many of them, he suggested, simply don't realize how fed up grassroot Americans are with the centralization of power and resources in Washington. The columnist concluded that it would be a political mistake to brush aside federalism." The President added: "Well, bless his little typewriter".

Mr Reagan referred to the fears of some people raised in an era when states' rights was a cover phrase for racism. "For the record," he said, "the new federalism is not meant to be and will not be permitted to be a step backward in the nation's commitment to civil rights".

In praising the development of voluntary service throughout local authority work the President announced the appointment of a private sector survey chief who will root out inefficiency and the waste of taxpayers' dollars in the federal Government. The new chairman of the survey is Mr Peter Grace, chairman and chief executive of the chemical company W. R. Grace.

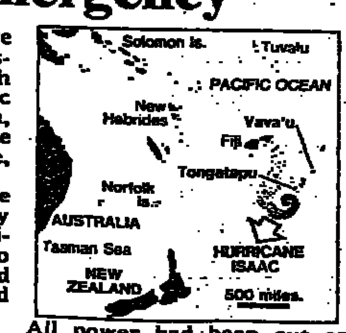
Cyclone-stricken islands face food emergency

Sydney, March 4. — Five Australian Air Force transport aircraft left tonight with relief supplies for the Pacific island kingdom of Tonga, where at least two people have died in a cyclone, officials said.

Most telephne lines to the islands have been cut by Cyclone Isaac, although officials confirmed that two children had been killed and seven were missing and feared drowned.

The Australian Broadcasting Commission, which managed to make telephone contact with the islands today, said 50 people had been treated for injuries.

The news editor of Tonga radio said in an interview that there was a desperate need for food and supplies.



All power had been cut on the main island of Tongatapu and in the capital, Nukualofa, houses had been washed away by flood waters.

Most buildings in the town had been damaged by the cyclone, which first hit the Tongan islands on Tuesday night, but is now moving away.

Palestine dispute jars Mitterrand's Israel visit

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, March 4

Differences about the Palestinian problem have ended the initial harmony of the first visit to Israel by a French head of state.

During a special session of the Knesset Parliament today M. François Mitterrand, The French President, and Mr *Menachem Begin*, the Israel Prime Ministers dwelt at lengh on their diametrically opposed views about a possible solution.

M. Mitterrand reiterated his strongly held opinion that it was wrong for outsiders to interfere in the Middle East *problem*. He said the task of finding an answer should be left to the peoples of the region. "France will not act as an arbitrator or as a mediator."

M Mitterand addressed the chamber from the podium used by the late President Sadat in November, 1977.

Mr Begin replied from a wheelchair positioned by his usual seat, but the hip injury he is suffering from did nothing to diminish the fierceness of his rhetoric.

He denied that the setting up of a Palestinian state in the West Bank would provide symmetric justice. "Can the people of France really allow themselves, after all that has happened during the Second World War, to render support to the design of handing over the mountains of Judea and Samaria to an enemy bent on our destruction, as itself *proclaims in its infamous* charter."

Reiterating what had been said during private meetings with the French; Mr Begin described the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) charter as the "Arab edition of *Mein Kamp*".

He quoted from an exchange which he said took place in London two weeks ago between "Mr el-Hassen, "Arafat's [the PLO leader] aide", and a correspondent of the Israeli newspaper *Davar*.

Mr el-Hassan was quoted as saying: "Zionism is the Satan. We don't negotiate with it."

On Israel, he allegedly said: "If it is based on the Zionist doctrine, then it has no right of existence, and we have no intention of negotiating with it."

Mr Begin, after emphasizing the importance of the new rapport with France that has been established by M *Mitterrand's* election and now his visit, described French support for a Palestinian state as the main obstacle in the path to the renewal of friendship between the two countries.

M Mitterrand said in his 35-minute address that he did not take a *strong stand on* who did and who did not represent the Palestinians. But he asked how the PLO could expect to sit at the negotiating *table while it* denied Israel's right to exist.

The French leader, who had avoided reference to the Palestinian question during the first *day of his visit*, said the essential conditions for negotiations between Israelis and Arabs were "preliminary and mutual recognition, and mutual renunciation of direct and indirect war".

Later M Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, who had come in for criticism during *Mr Begin's* address, held private talks with a number of West Bank leaders, including two of the most radical mayors, Mr Bassam Shaka, of Nablus and Mr Karim Khalef, of Ramallah.

The Arab leaders who also included Mr Elias Freij, Mayor of Bethlehem, had previously said that Mr Arafat should meet M Mitterrand.



Welcome to India: Mrs Indira Gandhi greeting President Karamanlis of Greece in Delhi at the start of his four-day state visit.

Union fears grow in Greece

From Mario Modiano, Athens, March 4

International labour orgnizations have expresed grave concern over the abrupt changes of leadership in the Greek trade union movement after the Socialist Government came to power.

A combined delegation from the Europen Trade Unions and the International Confederation of Free Trde Unions, which just spent 24 hours in Athens, raised the matter with Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Greek Prime Minister. The crisis broke out when unions affiliated with the ruling Socialists challenged before a tribunal the validity of the elections at the nationwide labour congress in October.

These unions obtained a court injunction deposing the elected leaders of the Greek General Confederation of Labour and appointing a new executive dominated by pro-Government union officials. The verdict of the tribunal has not been issued but the appointed confederation leadership took over the delicate negotiations with employers' associations on the national pay scales.

The Higher Arbitration Court fixed minimum wages at 825 drachmas (£7.50) yesterday and the lowest monthly salary in the private sector at 18,580 drachmas (£169). This tallies exactly with the increases granted by the Government in the public sector. It was known that the Socialist Cabinet was particularly anxious that these levels should not be exceeded as they could upset economic planning.

Opposition critics have accused the Papandreou Government of engineering the takeover of the confederation to neutralize pressures from its left and its right

Convention fails to halt mass murder

By Caroline Moorehead

The Genocide Convention, drafted in the aftermath of the Second World War by signatories universally horrified at the devastation caused by the Nazis, has significantly failed to eradicate what they termed an "odious scourge" against mankind, according to a new report published by the *Minority Rights Group, International Action Against Genocide.* Not merely has it failed to prevent numerous massacres after decolonization, and the mass *murder* of political groups, but the need 'for international protection against genocide is more urgent than ever".

Professor Leo Kuper, author of the report, begins by enumerating different variations of the crime. There is, he says, "domestic genocide", by which he means that of indigenous people, victims of predatory economic development (the Ache Indians of Paraguay); of tribal minorities after decolonization (the Hutu of Burundi); of racial groups during stuggles for autonomy (Bangladesh); or against scapegoat groups (the Armenians by the Turks).

But there are also, he argues, the political mass *murders* — the deportations under Stalin, the slaughter in Uganda — wrongly excluded from the convention. These are , he says "routine instruments of despotic power".

That the United Nations convention has failed is not really in question. Professor Kuper attributes this however not *merely to* the ambiguities of definition — to ensure ratification the massive slaughter of political groups and cultural genocide were both omitted from the final convention — but also to the emphasis on punishment (so far totally ineffective) rather than prevention.

Given the United Nations' inability to act, Professer Kuper advocates some sort of early warning screening system to prevent *genocidal* conflicts occuring, the appointment of a High Commissioner for Human Rights, the eventual setting up of an international penal court, and the continuing efforts of non-governmental human rights organizations everywhere, working to keep such atrocities ever before the public eye.

International Action Against Genocide Is the MRG's fifty-third report and appears as the organization celebrates is tenth anniversary. Born in the wake of Biafra, MRG set out to do for minorities what Amnesty International does for individuals: bring to the attention of the world the light of persecuted groups. Like Amnesty, it has tried to report on all geographic and political systems, in as impartial a way as possible.

International Action against Genocide by Professor Leo Kuper *(£1.20 plus 30p postage) and the* other reports can be bought from MRG, 36 Craven Street, London WC2.

Gaddafi threatens to go to war with US

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, March 4

Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, appears to be on the verbal warpath once again. Only a day after he claimed that the United States had conspired with Saudi Arabia to starve Libya of its oil market, he announced in Tripoli today that if America violated Libya's territorial waters his country would go to war with the United States.

"If America enters the Bay of Sidra [Sirte]," he told a rally in the Libyan capital, "war in the full sense of the word will begin between us and them, war with planes, navies, missiles and everything."

In August last year, two American fighters shot down two Libyan Air Force jets over the Gulf of Sirte during United States naval *manoeuvres* in the Mediterranean. The incident was followed by a series of antagonistic speeches by Colonel Gaddafi against the *American* Government, an onslaught which President Reagan's Administration obligingly returned in kind.

The Libyan leader *long ago realized that to be a public* enemy of the United States was to gain the favour of Third World countries and left-wing Arab nations. The *Americans have* never failed to support this image by denouncing the coloned as a terrorist leader.

Angered by what he regarded as an American boycott of Libyan oil sales in the United States, Colonel Gaddafi said that he would "be ready to sit down face to face and negotiate with America to discuss what we can do to establish relations between two countries in this world.

"But this boycott . . . is unreasonable in international relations because America is a big power and its relations with smaller countries should be unbiased. America should have self-respect and not attack a small country like Libya which has only two to three million inhabitants."

Americand tend to regard Colonel Gaddafi's latest fulminations as a product of the mouse that roared, but this is only half the truth. For there has been an important shift in the loyalty of Libya's publicly proclaimed Arab enemies.

In the past, the Egyptian leadership has always formed the object of Colonel Gaddafi's hatred with Saudi Arabia's monarchy running a close second. Now Saudi Arabia is being portrayed as an American lackey while all mention of the Egyptian Government has disappeared. *It seems that Colonel Gaddafi* is looking forward to some kind of rapprochement with the Egyptians under President Mubarak, at the expense of Saudi Arabia.

The Saudis, according to the Libyan leader, were trying to "drown" the world oil market in crude oil at the cheapest price because they *wanted to* "starve" Libya. "Saudi Arabia has declared a war of famine, an economic was against us" he said.

37 Sinai families evicted

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, March 4

Security forces stepped up the *eviction* of *Israeli* squatters from *Sinai* settlements before the scheduled return of the territory to Egypt on April 26. Buses took 37 families from three settlements today.

The expected rush of Stop the Withdrwal activists to resist the evictions did not materialize. A few approached, but were turned away. The evicted put up token resistance.

At Talmei Yosef, where 22 families were removed, petrol-soaked rags were set ablaze at one entrance to the village and a car parked across a road at another. In the afternoons the forces evicted more people from near Abraham and from Maoz Hayam.

Bona fide residents of the villages are being allowed to stay until March 31. Most accepted compensation and are committed to move. The squatters have taken over farms and houses of families who have been moved to Israel.

An activist said anti-withdrawal movement's *moderation was tactical: it* was decided to avoid overt confrontations with the Army, but to smuggle supporters past road blocks and into the region at night.

Rabbi Meir Kahane, the Jewish Defence League leader, arrived today at Yamit, the main Sinai settlement, and said he was setting up a new headquarters and wanted volunteers to "meet force with force".

Witnesses said soldiers arrived at the settlements today without arms. The squatters delayed evictions but troops were patient. Women soldiers *helped* the families to pack and men helpee to load lorries. The squatters were taken to Beersheba.

At Talmei Yosef the eviction was held up as some families produced papers attesting that they were bona fide *residents. One settler* was detained on suspicion of forging identity papers.

Radiation kills atom plant man

Toronto, March 4. — An Ontario nuclear worker has died because of radiation in his work, a spokesman for Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd said today. Another worker at the same plant had a disability award for cancer believed to have been caused or aggravated by radiation.

Both have been long serving employees at the Atomic Energy of Canada nuclear reactor research centre at Chalk River, Ontario, near Ottowa.

The company's admission of radiation-related cancers among its former workers could have important implications for the industry, for standards of radiation exposure and for hundreds of nuclear workers in Canada and abroad.

The two men developed typical radiation-related cancers although they never received more than the current maximum permiss*ible dose of radiation during* their years at Chalk River. Both received Onatario Workmen's Compensation Board awards in 1981 based on the company's acknowledgement to the board that their exposure to radiation was a possible or contributing cause of their cancers.

One man retired in 1981 after 28 years as a radiation worker. He was diagnosed as having cancer of the skin and neck. The other retired earlier after 31 years' service and was confirmed as suffering form leukaemia.

Chalk River's 2,200 workers were briefed earlier in the week about the cases, the spokesman said. He added: "We have always believed there was an increased risk of cancer due to radiation exposure

CORRECTIONS

A report from Warsaw published on March 3 stated that the Palestinian Abu Daoud was shot dead there last year. He survived the attack.

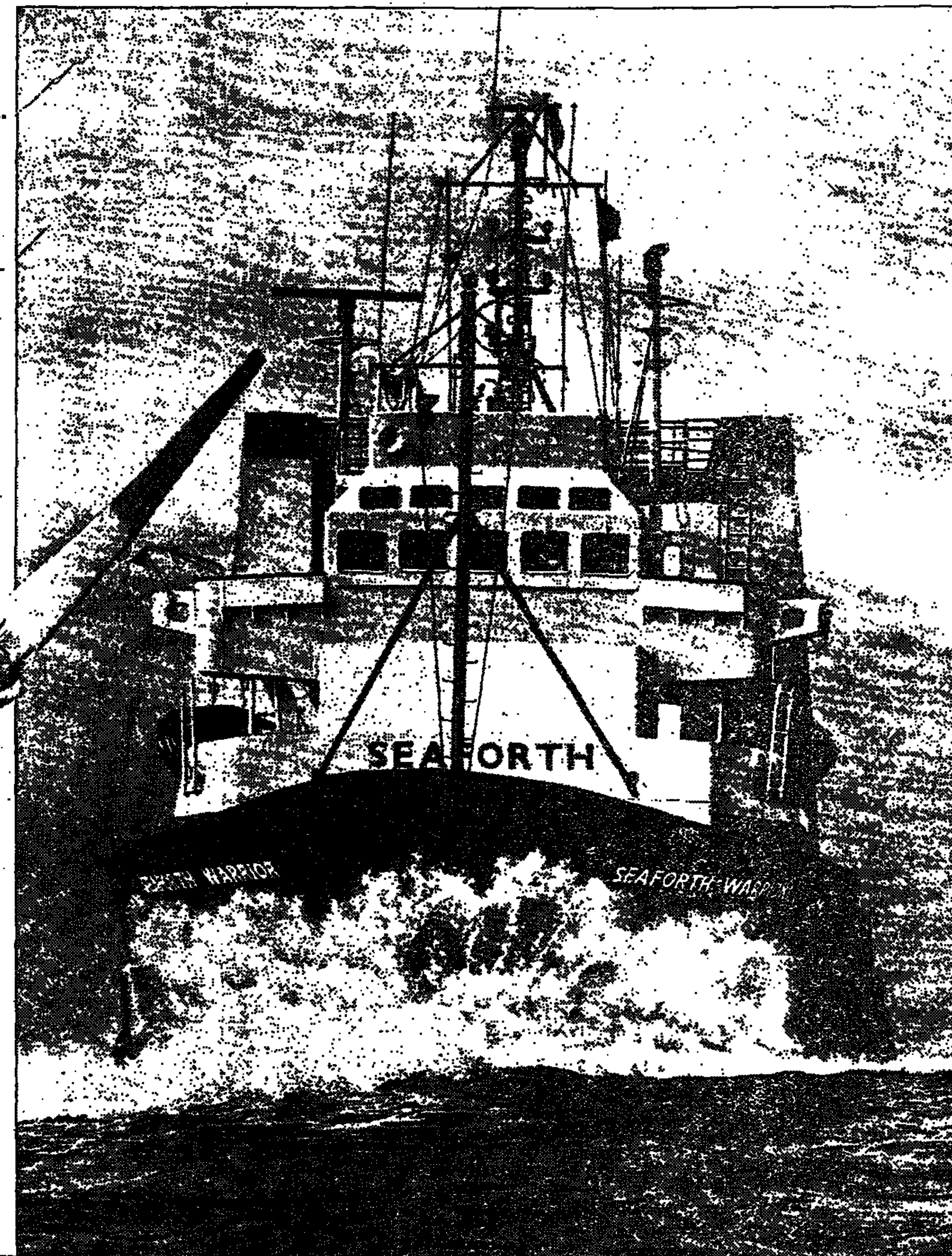
A Washington report yesterday should have stated that $218.3m (£110m) allocated for space defence represented less than 0.01 per cent of the proposed 1983 United States defence budget.

IN June, 1978 Taylor Woodrow went to sea when we acquired an interest in Seaforth Maritime Ltd.

Based in Aberdeen, Seaforth is one of Britain's major offshore support and ocean contracting companies in the oil and gas industries. It is particularly involved with ships, engineering and land-based services.

Embarking on this rather unusual venture for a construction company was something we saw as a logical move. In fact it's all part of our commitment to the development of those new energy sources so vital to Britain's industry and homes.

That's where the sails will play a very important role. Taylor Woodrow, in close partnership with GEC and British Aerospace, is harnessing wind power to provide electricity.



Why a construction company which went to sea is raising sails on land.

Work will soon begin on the construction of a giant 'windmill' to generate power into the grid system on Orkney. With a height of 75 metres it has two rotating blades whose overall diameter is 60 metres. This one machine will eventually supply the islanders with electricity equivalent to the requirements of over one thousand homes.

Projects like Orkney will make Britain world leader in this form of alternative energy source, a field in which Taylor Woodrow has already played a significant role in the development, civil engineering and construction of six nuclear power stations.

Add to that our involvement in coal mining at home and abroad, oil and gas exploration, and an office in Houston, focal point of the world energy business: then you will have some idea of Taylor Woodrow's commitment in helping to solve the world's pressing energy problems.

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Poland: Western anger

Britain refuses to accept enforced political exiles

By David Cross

The British Government has served notice on Poland's military authorities that it will have no truck with any attempt by them to force internees into exile.

A statement issued by the Foreign Office yesterday said that the Government had no intention of becoming an accomplice of the Polish authorities in resolving their internal problems by exerting pressure on internees to leave Poland against their will.

Any such move would appear to be at variance with their declared commitment to dialogue and reform, the statement added.

The Foreign Office was responding to an announcement by the Passport Office of the Polish Internal Affairs Ministry that the 4,000 people still interned nearly three months after the imposition of martial law could apply to emigrate with their families from the middle of this month.

This was a reiteration of earlier hints from Warsaw that the military authorities wanted to get rid of unwanted opponents by encouraging them to leave the country.

The Foreign Office said that the Government would only consider applications for resettlement from Polish citizens who genuinely wanted to leave Poland. Such applications would be dealt with in accordance with normal procedures covering such immigrants.

The Government is already consulting its allies in Nato and the European Community to present a common front to the Polish authorities on how to respond to any enforced emigration policy. It is confident that the United States, where most refugees would probably want to go, and Western Europe share its views.

The Government intends to seek an early meeting with the Polish authorities in Warsaw both to press home its condemnation of any pressure on internees and to seek clarification of details of the Passport Office statement. It is still not clear how the military authorities hope to proceed.

Meanwhile Mr Frank Chapple, general secretary of the electricians' union, yesterday called on all British and other European trade unions to boycott Eastern block exports and imports until martial law was lifted in Poland.

□ Washington: The United States said yesterday it doubted that a cynical and deplorable Polish Government policy of forced emigration of critics would succeed given the fact that the overwhelming majority of the Polish people opposed martial law (Mohsin Ali writes).

A State Department statement said: "This is a glaring admission of the Polish regime's inability to meet the democratic aspirations of the vast majority of the Polish people.

□ Warsaw: Fifteen detainees have asked permission to leave the country, the official news agency PAP reported yesterday (AFP reports).

A senior Foreign Ministry official said 219 people had been released from detention camps while 64 others had been interned since February 23. Mr Jerzy Urban, the government spokesman, added that the militia had so far seized 696 weapons, including machine guns and ammunition.

The Polish authorities said last week that people detained under martial law could be released provided they promised not to threaten state interests. Mr Urban today specified that the required declaration of loyalty was legal and not political in character.

It was announced that 42,000 poles who were abroad when martial law was proclaimed had returned to Poland while 96,000 remained outside the country. Any Polish citizen, even those who made prior requests for political asylum, could return and no sanctions would be taken against those "who did not carry out activities histile towards Poland".

Leading article, page 13

Warsaw ideologists fight a war of shadows

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, March 4

What do you think of Mr Mieczyslaw Rakowski the Deputy Prime Minister? The thickset, police-sergeant features of Mr Albin Siwak contrived a look of simultaneous boredom and deep thought, there was a pause of 10 seconds and then, gruffly: "This is a complex and one could say a dangerous question. We may both see the way forward but we have different goals."

Mr Siwak, talking in this instance to a foreign television camera, is what Western analysts describe as a hardliner, the toughest, most vociferously pro-Soviet member of the Politburo. Mr Rakowski is what analysts characterize as a liberal Marxist, or "moderate". Both are leading members of the Polish United Workers' Party which showed itself yet again, at the Central Committee session last week, to be neither united nor of great relevance to the workers.

Even so, general Wojciech Jaruzelski could visit Moscow this week with at least the feeling that his "moderate" line had triumphed and that Moscow would acknowledge the desirability of limited reform, under the codewords "socialist renewal".

But what do these categories, "moderate" and "hardline", really mean? If last week's plenum proved anything, it was that the old labels have become redundant and are more of a handicap than an aid to understanding the Polish situation. How "moderate", for example, is it to keep more than 4,000 people interned without trial for over two months?

At the emergency party congress last summer it was possible to talk realistically of reformists, moderates and hardliners because the reference point of Solidarity, the independent trade union movement, still existed. The liberal reformers in the party were those like Tadeusz Fiszbach of Gdansk, who wanted to create a party responsive, *in a democratic* way, to the Polish people's needs, answering the questions raised by Solidarity, indeed in some ways competing against it as the voice of the workers.

The *hardliners* — though some, like Mr Stefan Olszowski, conceded the need for economic reform — saw Solidarity as a threat to Communist Party control, a threat that had to be forcefully countered. The moderates, including General Jaruzelski, wanted to tread a middle path, accepting the need for controlled change but resisting anything that would challenge the "geo-political realities" — membership of the Warsaw Pact, neighbourly relations with the Soviet Union.

In the following months, before martial law was declared in December, these "moderates" became almost indistinguishable from the "hardliners", driven into a closer embrace by their sense of threat about the growth and influence of Solidarity. Radical reformers like Fiszbach became isolated, their position, in the view of the party, made untenable by the speed with which Solidarity was developing its political ideas and ambitions. Martial law declared by General Jaruzelski — perhaps, as the leadership has indicated, to head off a Soviet intervention; — changed the spectrum.

It no longer became necessary to define party positions in relation to Solidarity — the union is suspended and the leadership jailed — and the pressure for liberal reform has eased correspondingly. The pressure to swear loyalty to the Soviet Union (done most convincingly by the hardliners) increased.

What then, is the gulf dividing Mr Rakowski and Mr Siwak? In a recent interview published in *The Times*, Mr Rakowski said "some of my best friends are in Moscow", and no doubt Mr Siwak would make the same claim. But there seems to be two cardinal differences between the groupings in the Polish Communist Party.

First there is disagreement over the relative importance of ideology in reconstructing the party, almost fatally eroded by Solidarity over the past 16 months. Mr Hieronym Kubiak, regarded as the most liberal member of the Politburo, says implicitly in his speeches; those who are not against us are for us. In effect that means for example, leave the universities in peace. It is known that there is great oppositional sentiment in the universities, but because this is not directly aimed at challenging the party, the party should not interfere, in the Kubiak view.

By contrast, Mr Siwak's view, expressed in the television interview, is more combative: those who are not for us are against us. The logical conclusion of this is the instrument of the purge. Mr Siwak is on record as saying that the three liberal Central Committee members ousted at the plenum last week were only the beginning. The drive is towards ideological purity, a drive supported in the provinces by the new local party chiefs who see it as the best way of stamping on Solidarity sympathisers in the party and consolidating their own power.

These differences, so evident at the party leadership level, — the Central Committee cannot even agree on a draft document entitled *What Are We Fighting For, Where Are We Going?* — are extended to the state level. For Mr Siwak and the people he speaks for, a firm Marxist-Leninist base is a condition for national recovery. For Mr Kubiak, and indeed, for General Jaruzelski, national recovery is a matter of problem-solving that requires every possible instrument, ideology being one.

If the best way to cure the economy involves using non-Marxist methods, then that has to be pursued; if the best way to solve youth discontent is to meet young people's material needs, then let us build more homes, produce more cars.

The real distinction then is not between hardliners, moderates and reformists, but between ideologues and technocrats. Naturally, because technocrats are judged by their ability to solve practical problems, they are inclined to compromise and consensus. In the politburo, the technocrats are often those with additional ministerial responsibility or generals, for they have realized that ideology is not the only instrument of command.

Most of the erstwhile Marxist reformers — Mr Rakowski, Mr Stanislaw Ciosek, the trade union minister — are in the Government and not the Politburo because the spirit of reform can best be expressed within the framework of day to day governmental decision-making, rather than in the tight confines of the Politburo where most decisions have to be *justified* in *terms of* ideological purity.

Zimbabwe white MPs abandon Ian Smith

From Stephen Taylor
Salisbury, March 4

Seven MPs of the white Republican Front resigned today in the culmination of a long simmering rebellion against the leadership of Mr Ian Smith and the party's attitude towards the government of Zimababwe.

The resignations of the seven, who are not forming a new party and will sit as independents, leaves the Front with only 10 members in the House of Assembly.

There was no official response from the ruling Zanu (PF) Party of Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, but Mr Didymus Mutasa, the Speaker of the House who was informed earlier, said Mr Mugabe would welcome the resignations.

Front policy and its failure to respond to the reconciliation espoused by the Government, was criticized at a plain-speaking caucus meeting this morning. At a meeting afterwards the seven, who had been considering resigning for several months, decided that there were insufficient grounds for them to remain in the party.

The rebels are Mr Christopher Andersen, who arranged a meeting between his constituents and Mr Mugabe two weeks ago, Mr Richard Cartwright, Mr Henry Elsworth, Mr Willian Irvine, Mr Esmond Micklem, Mr Paddy Shields and Mr James Thrush.

They speculated that they might be joined by Mr John Landau, the Chief Whip, who is out of the country at present.

Mr Thrush said that they had decided to resign because they felt they were no longer able to represent their constituencies adequately as members of the Front and because some of the views expressed in the party were totally opposed to their own.

It was the intention of the seven to work for the successful development of Zimbabwe in cooperation with members of the Republican Front where appropriate.

Despite the implicit criticism of Mr Smith, they made no attack on the man who led the party and white Rhodesia throughout the years of unilateral independence and the guerrilla war which led to official independence.

Mr Thrush said he retained a tremendous admiration for Mr Smith.

The former Prime Minister, who has become increasingly alienated from Mr Mugabe and his colleagues, said that the resignations, could not have come at a worst time. "The more difficult the times, the more important it is to stay together", he said.

Asked whether the split might cause him to stand down he said: "I *think* it might have delayed it".

Argentina steps up Falklands pressure

By Peter Strafford

By issuing ill-defined threats of action against the Falkland Islands, the Argentine military Government appears to have tken a deliberate decision to raise the temperature on this sensitive issue.

Both in Britain and Argentina there are strong feelings about the future of the islands. In Argentina it is believed that they are rightly part of Argentine territory, in spite of having beeen ruled *by Britain since 1833, and* that they should be handed back.

In Britain it is government policy, repeated on Wednesday by Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, that there can be no contemplation of any transfer of sovereignty without consulting the wishes of the islanders, or wthout the consent of the House of Commons.

The decision to press the issue more aggressively bears the mark of General Leopolde Galtieri, who took over as President of Argentina last December. But it is still not clear whether he intends to take coercive action against the islanders if he does not get a satisfactory response from Britain, or whether he is primarily using the issue to drum up support inside Argentina.

As a last resort, Argentina has the military capacity to take over the islands, which are about 300 miles from the mainland. There are only about 1,800 inhabitants, defended by a Royal Marines platoon and a force of local volunteers, in all a total of fewer than 100 men.

But it would lead to a serious crisis with Britain; and the Argentine forces could have considerable difficulties in taking the airport, where the Marines are deployed.

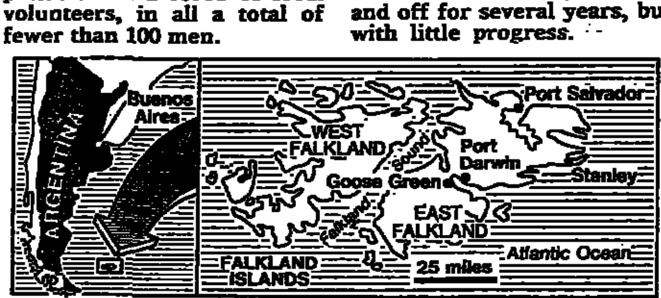
It is more likely, therefore, that pressure would be exerted at a lower level. Press reports in Buenos Aires, where the issue has been receiving banner treatment, talk of recourse to the United Nations (where Argentina has considerable support on the issue), a break in economic or political relations with Britain, or a total rupture of relations with Britain.

It would also be possible for Argentina to bring direct pressure to bear on the islands because of their remoteness. Apart from a ship which sails from Tilbury four times a year, the only communications with the outside world are by means of a limited air service provided by the Argentine Air Force. This could be cut off.

To do this would, however, be a reversal of the policy followed in recent years of winning over the islanders by good relations rather than coercion.

There are different views of how to tackle the issue in Buenos Aires. Some military men would be ready for a military solution, while officials in the Foreign Ministry show more understanding of the complexity of the issue and are ready for a more gradual approach.

Talks have been held on and off for several years, but with little progress.



Pathologist tells women to avoid IUDS

From Christopher Thomas
New York, March 4

An American pathologist is urging the three million American women who use intrauterine devices to find another form of contraception.

Dr Prabodh Gupta says the devices can cause infertility and life-threatening infections. *He says the organism Actinomyces* thrives in the environment created by the devices. "Every IUD can cause this organism. I would not tell my sister, my wife or my daughter to use an IUD."

His research findings are published in the latest issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. He says that only about 10 per cent of women using the devices show no signs of being infected with *Actinomyces*. Childless women should not use the devices because they could distort and scar the uterus and fallopian tubes, leading to permenent infertility.

Dr Gupta of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland, said today that women who use the devices should undergo an annual smear test for the detection of *Actinomyces*, which can spread to the liver, intestines and brain. "As long as you have a foreign body in the uterus you are going to have problems with it," he added.

□ An 18-year-old girl who claims she became seriously ill through using menstrual tampons has begun a $2m (£1.1m) damages suit against the makers, Procter and Gamble (Reuter reports).

Lawyers for Deletha Dawn Lampshire claim the tampons caused her to suffer toxic shock syndrome, a potentially fatal condition

The Lampshire case is the first of 200 filed against tampon manufacturers to come to court.

English, as Denis speaks it

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, March 4

Britons beware: A wave of German tourists may arrive this summer inviting you to schnorters at the vatering hole and, possibly, getting their knickers in a tvist.

The weekly *Die Zeit* is treating its readers to the ultimate course: "(Un)learn English with Denis Thatcher."

For the next 12 weeks they will be taught to speak airily of wooftahs, yobboes and tinctures, which, they are assured, is the jargon of British clubs, stately homes and managerial suites.

Die Zeit calls it "Denisisch" because, it maintains, no one speaks it better than Mr Denis Thatcher, husband of the Prime Minister. It admits it is heavily indebted to *Private Eye*, the satirical magazine, whose regular "Dear Bill" feature evidently amounts to a basic textbook of the language.

The daunting task of initiating Germans into the meaning of force eighters, reading the Riot Act and TTFN has been taken on by Herr Karl Heinz Wocker, *Die Zeit*'s London correspondent, a keen observer of Britain's weird social customs.

Herr Wocker assures readers that Mr Thatcher really speaks like this — he personally has heard him say "Sod this for a lark" which is, in German, (approximately) *"Verflixt und Zugenaht"*.

In his introductory article Herr Wocker warns Germans to be careful where they use "Denisisch".

"Please do not tell your London taxi driver: "Take me to your talking shop" when you want to go the Commons, and if you are looking for the vicarage in an idyllic village, for heaven's sake don't ask for the "sky pilot".

Liberals fail to win Johannesburg

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg, March 4

The anti-apartheid Progressive Federal Party (PFP) made striking gains in yesterday's municipal and rural council elections in the Transvaal, but failed by one seat to wrest control of Johannesburg, South Africa's biggest city, from the ruling National Party (NP).

The inconclusive outcome in Johannesburg, where neither the PFP nor the NP gained a clear victory, was a bitter disappointment to the PFP's leaders, and took some of the gloss off the party's capture of the adjoining municipalities of Sandton and Randburg, and of three wards in the NP stronghold of Pretoria.

The two-month-long election campaign, which received almost as much press coverage as a general election, was dominated by the PFP's promise to open swimming pools and other public amenities to all races, and the poll was widely viewed as *a test of public readiness for* further relaxation of apartheid.

The PFP will undoubtedly use the result to argue that the National Party, having shed its die-hard right wing, now has no excuse for not pressing ahead with promised reforms of the apartheid system. It has long been the PFP's claim that not only English-speaking but also Afrikaans-speaking public opinion is more liberal than the Government admits.

This argument would be more convincing, however, if there had been a clearer verdict in Johannesburg, and if the turnout had been bigger. Figures are not yet available but it seens unlikely that more than two fifths of Transvaal's all-white electorate of more than a million went to the polls.

The picture was also muddied by the gains made at the other end of the political spectrum, by the near-fascist and virulently racist Herstigte Nasionale Party (HNP) of Mr Jaap Marais, which won six of the 36 seats on the Pretoria council and also came close to winning one of Johannesburg's 47 wards. The HNP has no seats in Parliament.

Another victory for the extreme rightwing was the defeat of the mayor of Randfontein, a mining town to the west of Johannesburg, by *Dr Connie Mulder*, the disgraced former Information Minister at the centre of the Muldergate scandal and contender for the succession to Mr John Vorster as Prime Minister. He now leads the National Conservative Party, which also has no seats in Parliament.

Broadly, the election result comfirms the pattern set at last April's election where the NP, which *still* commands a huge majority in Parliament despite this week's expulsion of 16 rightwing MPs, lost votes to both the right and left. This has been the historic fate of most ruling parties in South Africa where (contary to orthodox political wisdom) it has generally been a mistake to try to hold the middle group.

Control of Johannesburg seems likely to hang in the balance for some days. The PFP won 23 seats and the NP and its allies 21, but independents have said they will vote with the NP, bringing it level with the PFP. Everything therefore depends on the allegiance of a third independent, who went on a week's camping holiday immediately after yesterday's vote without saying whom he would support.

Pipeline sanctions worry Moscow

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, March 4

Reacting sharply to President Reagan's campaign to prevent the construction of *the 3,000-mile* gas pipeline from Siberia to Western Europe, the Russians said today the pipeline epitomized the differences between the United States and its Nato allies.

A commentary by Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya said Western Europe repeatedly had made it clear to the American Government that it was not going to pull out of the project, but the Americans were now trying to invoke sanctions not only against the Soviet Union but against West European firms taking part in the deal.

The commentary did not say that President Reagan has decided to delay a decision on whether to prohibit the export of parts to the Soviety Union by European subsidiaries of American firms until hearing the views of Mr James Buckley, his special envoy now consulting West European governments.

But it described the pipeline as a "kind of touchstone" for relations between the United States and Western Europe, and said American attempts to block the project set a very dangerous trend in the international division of labour.

There is no doubt the Russians are seriously worried by Washington's campaign against the pipeline, which is of critical importance in ensuring future valuable hard currency earnings for the Soviet Union.

The Russians have been heartened by the insistence of West Germany, the main Western financier of the £5,000m project, on going ahead with the supply of high-pressure steel pipes, agreed in contracts signed last autumn. But Moscow is being cautious in voicing approval of West Germany's stand for fear of adding ammunition to the critics of Bonn's policy.

Meanwhile the Russians have been issuing reports over the past week suggesting that they can perfectly well manufacture most essential parts for the pipeline and its pumping stations themselves.

Tass said yesterday that large diameter, multi-layer pipes made of cheap low-alloy steel were now being made in Donetsk, in the Ukraine. These could withstand pressures of up to 120 atmospheres and would be used to transport gas. Another report yesterday said the Russians had begun full-scale production of heavy-duty pipe-laying equipment and machinery for automatic welding of large pipes.

However, the key parts that the Russians will have to import — the rotor blades for the pumping station turbines — can come only from the United States. Western economic analysts say the Soviet Union is far behind in the technology needed for their manufacture, although it has begun working on the process.

The gas pipeline is due to be completed by 1984, and is the biggest project of the current five-year plan. It is essential if the Russians are to exploit the vast, untapped gas reserves of the Urengoi field and in the Yamal peninsula in the far north of Siberia.

The gas will be piped to the Czechoslovak border and then on for distribution to six Western countries. Gas exports amounting to 40,000 million cubic metres a year are expected to compensate for the falling demand for Soviet oil, which is becoming increasingly expensive to extract.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Bandit chief dies in shootout

Dehli. — One of India's most notorious bandit chiefs has been killed in a gunbattle with police. Thirteen of his men and a policeman also died in a seven-hour chase and final showdown (Trevor Fishlock writes).

According to reports here gang leader Chhabiram who had a 100,000 rupee (£6,000) price on his head, was discovered by Uttar Pradesh police near Mainpuri, about 150 miles south-east of Delhi. He and his men fled with police in pursuit. They ran all day and were cornered in a village last night. The final shootout lasted for 90 minutes.

Chhabiram had been a bandit for 10 years and was wanted for scores of murders and kidnappings. When the battle was over police recovered from the bandits a light machine gun and several automatic rifles.

Oil rig found upside down

St John's, Newfoundland. — The oil drilling rig Ocean Ranger has been found upside down on the ocean floor near where it disappeared on February 15 with the loss of 84 lives, Mobil Oil Canada, said.

"Although the data is sketchy and inconclusive, it has been determined the rig is lying upside down in about 265ft of water some 300ft east of the wellhead", the company said, adding that divers in two midget submarines had taken pictures of the wreck.

Turks asked to spare unionists

Geneva. — The International Labour Organization has appealed to Turkey not to impose death sentences on 52 trade unionists on trial in Istanbul.

The ILO's freedom of association said leaders of the Disk trade union federation were being tried in military courts, and that Turkey's Government, which regarded the trade unionists as terrorists, had not adequately responded to ILO inquiries. It also said that a lawyer for Disk, Mrs Yardimci, had both legs broken under torture last year.

The plane now arriving . . .

Dar es Salaam. — A planeload of Tanzanians who set off on a 500-mile internal flight have finally arrived here — a week and 9,500 miles later.

Passengers and crew of the hijacked Air Tanzania aircraft returned from London in the same Boeing 737 which was forced to Nairobi, Jiddah, Athens and, finally, London, where the authorities held the aircraft and persuaded the hijackers to surrender. A crowd of several thousand broke into cheers as the aircraft touched down at Dar es Salaam international airport carrying 71 passengers and crew.

Cosmonaut denied visa

Bonn.—The West German Government has refused to issue a visa to Valentina Tereschkova, the first Russian woman cosmonaut, who had been invited by the West German Communist Party to attend a women's conference and a party meeting.

The Foreign Office gave no reason for refusing the application but last month the Government announced that it would limit high level visits between the two countries as part of Western pressure against martial law in Poland.

Canada deports Sinn Fein man

Toronto. — Canada has deported Mr Edward Howell, a member of Sinn Fein, the political wing of the IRA.

He was arrested on charges of illegal entry last month with four other men at a border checkpoint in Buffalo, New York. Immigration officials escorted Mr Howell to an aircraft for Ireland.

Kidnappers free 'Bikini King'

Bovalino, Italy. — Kidnappers released Signor Giovanni, a bathing suit manufacturer known as the "Bikini King", after his family paid a 1,500m lire (about £650,000) ransom. He was abducted on October 21, and lost 40lb in captivity. Police said his health was poor.

Newspaper banned

Montevideo — Uruguay's military Government has ordered the opposition weekly newspaper *Opinar* to stop publishing for the next eight weeks, editorial staff said, because the paper had attacked the Government's policies on press freedom.

New effort to find Namibia formula

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, March 4

The five-nation Western contact group is to make a new attempt within the next few days to resolve a problem which is holding up final agreement on the first phase of their revised settlement plan for Namibia (South-West Africa).

The problem centres on the "one-man-two-votes" proposal for constituent assembly elections which will precede the granting of independence to the disputed territory.

Under this dual election system half the seats in the constituent assembly would be filled by proportional representation and the other half by single member constituencies. The aim is to make it more difficult for the South West Africa People's Organization (Swapo) to obtain the two-thirds majority in the assembly needed for constitutional changes and thereby to provide assurances to South Africa and the territory's 100,000 whites that minority rights will be protected.

The proposal has been accepted by South Africa but rejected by Swapo and the black "front line" states. The five members of the contact group — Britain, the United States, France, West Germany and Canada — are now considering ways to get around this impasse.

One option would be for the contact group to go back to the black states and try to convince them that the election plan is not as complicated as it appears and will not produce a result that is undemocratic.

Another option would be for the five Western nations to ask South Africa to accept a revised election procedure. This would not go down well with Pretoria which in the past has accused the Western nations of double-dealing and of going back on points which had already been agreed.

Only when agreement had been reached on this issue can talks begin in earnest on the second phase of the Western plan involving the actual setting up of elections. This phase is expected to be even more difficult than the first phase.

Meanwhile, Mr David Rockefeller, the retired chairman of the Chase Manhattan Bank, has called for a resumption of diplomatic relations between the United States and the Marxist regime in Angola. He said during a 10-nation African tour he did not think African Marxism threatened American interests.

The United States has linked the establishment of normal relations with the withdrawal of between 15,000 and 20,000 Cuban troops from Angola.

☐ Pretoria: South Africa denied an official Angolan report that Swapo guerrillas has destroyed a South African base at Okaho in Namibia in a battle last Saturday (AFP reports). A Defence Ministry spokesman said there was no such camp.

Indonesia 'banished 4,000 to island'

Jakarta, March 4.—Indonesia transported 4,000 people from East Timor to a tiny island after a military operation against East Timor Guerrillas of the Fretelin independence movement, a Red Cross official said today. Mr David Delapraz, an International Red Cross regional delegate, added that he and a team from the organization last month interviewed some of the 806 families, moved in 1981 and now officially described as temporarily displaced.

He refused to comment on their condition. They were seen by his team on Atauro island, in the South Banda sea 20 miles from Dili, capital of East Timor, the former Portuguese colony

The annexation, not recognized by the United Nations, was followed by fighting between Indonesian troops and Fretelin guerrillas which has continued intermittently. Mr Delapraz said tha the Red Cross would give the Indonesian Government tomorrow a confidential report

Mr Delapraz said the Red Cross, concerned by possible victims among the civil population, first asked to visit Atauro in October amid reports that many people had been displaced in an East Timor military sweep. Indonesian officials said most of the East Timor nationals moved there had been sent for security reasons and some for their own protection. — Reuter.



Child's play: A youthful member of Chad's regular Army ready for battle with insurgents.

Peruvian province declares state of emergency

Lima, March 4. — The Peruvian province of Ayacucho has declared a state of emergency for the second time in six months after 14 people were killed in an attack on a prison by left-wing guerrillas in which more than 200 inmates were freed.

Constitutional guarantees were suspended and large numbers of police with extra powers of search and arrest were rushed to the provincial capital 190 miles south east of Lima.

Officials said 12 guerrillas and two prison guards were killed when attackers armed with machine guns and dynamite stormed the prison on Tuesday.

The assault, by suspected members of a Maoist group called Sendero Luminoso (Lighted Path), was the most serious incident of guerrilla violence since the restoration of democracy 19 months ago.

General José Gagliardi, the Interior Minister, said: "We are faced with a force which is much better prepared than we thought".

Ayacucho, a remote, Andean mountain province, has been the focus of extremist violence since President Fernando Belaunde Terry assumed office in July, 1980 after 12 years of military rule.

A 60-day state of emergency was imposed in the province last October after a rash of bomb attacks. Police rounded up hundreds of suspects and claimed to have eradicated most of the guerrilla cells.

The province's calm was shattered on Sunday when a firsts attempt was made to free the guerrilla suspects from Ayacucho's jail. Four prisoners were killed and an escape was foiled.

Two nights later about 150 guerrillas took part in the second assault. Using dynamite to blast open the prison gates, they burst inside chanting "Long live the armed struggle" and "Long live communism"— Reuter.

Hongkong Bahais petition for asylum

From Our Correspondent
Hongkong, March 4

Several Iranians of the Bahai faith living in Hongkong are seeking sanctuary in other countries after being ordered by the Tehran Government to return home to face charges over unspecified crimes.

The group, believed to number less than a dozen among the estimated 1,500 Bahais in Hongkong, are seeking status in Hongkong and elsewhere, fearing they will be the next victims of a "religious purge with political significance" if they return to Iran, Mr Steve Townsend, their Hongkong spokesman, said.

At least 100 Bahais — whose religious sect believes in the oneness of God, world government, sexual equality and the inportance of education — have been executed in Iran under the Islamic regime.

The Hongkong Bahais, who strongly deny any anti-revolution actions, fear execution by firing squad as "Zionist agents" if they return to Iran. "Iranian Bahais have always been labelled as supporters of the Zionist group and anti-revolutionaries", Mr Townsend said.

The Iranian consulate in Hongkong, which confirms the recalls, has told the group that their passports will not be renewed when they expire next month.

Yugoslavia warns Belgium

From Dessa Trevisan
Belgrade, March 4

The Yugoslav Government has reacted strongly to the attack by gunmen in Brussels, in which two Yugoslavs were killed and several wounded, by accusing the Belgian authorities of doing nothing to hinder terrorist attacks.

In a sharply worded protest that reflects serious apprehension at continuing anti-Yugoslav activities, especially since last year's ethnic riots in the Kosovo region, the Yugoslav Government gave a warning that relations between Belgrade and Brussels were being seriously affected.

Yesterday the gunmen walked into the Yugoslav cultural club in Brussels, pulled out a sub-machine gun, killed two men and injured at least three others, and escaped in a waiting car.

Yugoslavia now claims that despite its warning to Belgium of continuing acts of terrorism against Yugoslav diplomats and migrant workers, the Belgian authorities have failed to take matters more firmly in hand. Belgrade also accused the Belgians of leniency, which is regarded here as encouraging incident like yesterday's.

Behind this apprehension lies the fact that the Yugoslavs have been expecting some serious demonstration by ethnic Albanians to mark the anniversary of the Kosovo riots which began last March at the university there.

Since then there has been a series of incidents in Belgium against Yugoslav diplomats and institutions: a bomb exploded in the Yugoslav Airlines office, there was arson in the Yugoslav tourist bureau, and several clubs of Yugoslav migrant workers were attacked, culminating in the assassination of a member of the Yugoslav embassy

Church tells of torture in Bolivia

From John Enders
La Paz, March 4

The Roman Catholic Church in Bolivia says it has proof that prisoners in the paramilitary security jail of La Paz are regularly subjected to brutal torture despite President Celso Torrelio Villa's pledge that his government fully respects human rights.

The allegations are contained in a written report to the bishops' meeting in Santa Cruz de la Sierra from the archdiocese's ecumenical aid office, established to aid political prisoners and their families.

It says the 80 prisoners in the La Paz jail have been tortured in recent days: "The statistical balance of repression shows that, far from having entered a period of social peace, the population overall lives subjected to the constant threat of arrest and torture."

Several Argentine advisers and at least one Italian citizen were said to be members of the interrogation teams working with the security apparatus here since the military seized power in July, 1980, in a coup led then by former-president Luis Garcia Meza.

General Torreilo came to power on September 4 but many observers, including foreign diplomats and military men in the Government, say he is not fully in control of the security agents working with the Interior Ministry.

Those sources say that Señor Freddy Quiroga, who heads the feared paramilitary apparatus once called the SES (*Servicio Especial de Seguridad*) but now renamed DIE (*Direccion de Inteligencia del Estado*) is for all practical purposes a man out of control.

He has been head of one paramilitary force or another for years.

Fugitive for 38 years faces firing squad

From Michael Binyon Moscow, March 4

For 38 years Maksim Poltavets escaped retribution for his part in the wartime execution of villagers by German occupation forces in the Ukraine. When the Red Army swept in to liberate his village, he shut himself away in his house, and he remained there in virtual darkness until a few weeks ago.

Now an old man of 71, he was discovered by neighbours and hauled before a village meeting, where several older people accused him of serving as a policeman with the Germans and killing the villagers of Novosyelits and a group of Red Army soldiers. They voted to put him on trial. If found guilty, he will probably be shot.

A generation after the end of the war, fugitives are still being discovered in hiding. Last year the authorities found a 61-year-old man, almost blind, unshaven and dressed in rags, who had been hidden in a bunker by his family when Nazi troops withdrew from the Lvov region in 1944. He had worked for the occupation forces as a bricklayer and was branded as a collaborator by the local population.

Eventually his father and other close relatives died, and when police led him into daylight he had lost all sense of time. Unusually, it was decided not to punish him for the "misdemeanours of his youth" and work was found for the old and broken man.

But others do not escape retribution. The Soviet Union is merciless in the pursuit of war criminals, and there is no statute of limitations to protect the guilty. Every year about a dozen people are shot for crimes committed 40 years ago.

Many war criminals are brought to light by painstaking investigation by the KGB security police and the study of captured wartime documents. In the turmoil of the German retreat from Russia, many of the thousands of collaborators managed to slip away and change their documents and identities.

The Russians frequently accuse the West of harbouring war criminals and being deliberately slack in prosecuting them. But the Soviet authorities are quick to cooperate in providing evidence for trials in the West.

In 1980 American government lawyers, investigating naturalized Americans suspected of having served as camp guards and policemen with the Nazis, were given help and documents here which they said could lead to the deportation of up to 350 people.

The Presidential Commission on the Jewish Holocaust was offered wide-ranging help in the Soviet Union. Three years ago the American Attorney-General told the Jewish organization B'nai B'rith that he had not had so much support in seeking war criminals from any other country.

KEEP FARES FAIR

To the 92 MPs of Greater London.

The Fares Fair Policy, introduced for Londoners on October 4th 1981, was meant to make the public transport systems more accessible to everyone. It increased efficiency through greater use of the available services. It allowed simpler, lower fares.

On March 21st 1982, fares will go up, signalling the end of what was a bold and imaginative piece of planning.

If nothing is done before March 21st, there will be some dramatic changes to the costs and quality of working and travelling in London. Fares will double. Uneconomic tube stations may close. Some bus services may have to go altogether. All services will be reduced.

Higher fares will result in more people driving to work, simply because their car will be cheaper to use. London's streets will be more jammed. There will be more rogue parking. More chaos. More accidents.

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Most other cities in the modern world have decided long ago that public transport is a social service. As much a social service as hospitals and education.

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On the same basis, the figure for Milan is 71%. Brussels 70%. Paris 56%.

London, with the Fares Fair Policy, subsidised its public transport system by 46% – still way down in the League Table.

And, following the rulings of the Court of Appeal and the Law Lords, the subsidy figure for London's public transport will fall, after March 21st, to as little as 12%.

The cost of Fares Fair to the London ratepayer was almost doubled by the penalties imposed by the Government withholding block grant.

Is this fair on Londoners?

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School indiscipline: an end to corporal punishment and how teachers control bad behaviour

Indiscipline in schools has become an urgent topic since the suspension of teaching at St Saviour's C of E School in Toxteth, Liverpool, after riots by children under 12 years old. Meanwhile, the European Court of Human Rights has ruled that parents should give permission before children are beaten by teachers. And it is only the first of a series of judgments which will abolish the cane in British schools.

Caning and the European Court

The judges who will put a stop to whacking

The days of beatings — "le vice Anglais", as it is known on the Continent — are numbered, at least in the classroom. Although there has been pressure for decades to abolish caning, it is taking the intervention of European judges sitting in Strasbourg to hammer the final nail into what has remained a remarkably lively coffin.

If last week's judgment by the European Court of Human Rights does not persuade the Government to abolish corporal punishment once and for all, a cluster of cases now in Strasbourg or about to go are bound to force its hand. This is because last week's decision did not actually look at whether beating was wrong in itself. It concerned two Scottish cases — those of Gordon Campbell and Jeffrey Cosans — who had not been beaten. Cosans was told to report for the belt after he had broken a school rule but he refused and was suspended from school. Campbell's mother had asked the regional education authority for an assurance that her son would not be belted but this was refused.

The European judges did not therefore rule on whether beating was an inhuman or degrading punishment contrary to Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights. But they did rule that another provision of the convention had been breached — that parents have the right to have their children educated in conformity with their own religious and philosophical convictions. This means that parents now have the right to refuse to allow their children to be beaten at school.

Other cases lodged with the European Commission (this human rights structure has, incidentally, nothing to do with the EEC) are likely to result in full-scale abolition because beatings took place. One complaint concerns another Scottish boy, Peter Brock, who received one stroke of the belt, allegedly for laughing in class. He was 15 at the time and attending Crieff High School, in Tayside.

Initially Brock refused to take the belt and says it was only after vigorous interrogation by the head and other teachers, and after he had been forced to sign a confession, that he agreed to be hit. He says he was forced to stand in the school entrance for some time while he thought about it and that he was excluded from school for several days. Eventually Brock left school before taking his O grades, the Scottish public exams, because he could stand the school no longer. His lawyers will be arguing that the incident affected his career prospects and that he should be handsomely compensated.

A second case, which is about to be filed in Strasbourg, concerns Alan Green, who at the age of 14 was caned and then slippered at his school, Abbs Cross comprehensive in the outer London borough of Havering. When he first started at the school his mother, Sylvia Green, wrote to the chairman of the education committee, the chief education officer and the school saying she did not want him beaten. She was informed he would be subject to the same discipline as others. He was caned after he and three other boys had been caught flicking stones through the doorway of an empty classroom.

"It was silly behaviour and I don't want to make excuses for it but nothing was broken as far as I know," said Mrs Green. The slippering, which, incidentally, was a method of corporal punishment not permitted in the authority's regulations, took place after Alan had been seen writing on another boy with a felt-tip pen.

After that, Mrs Green asked the new head for an assurance that if her son was going to be beaten, she would like 24 hours notice. This was refused. She therefore wrote to Mr Mark Carlisle, the former Education Secretary, asking him to rule that Havering was acting unreasonably. He declined and Mrs Green felt she had no choice but to pursue her own legal action.

The case which is most advanced in Strasbourg — it was submitted in 1979 — concerns a boy from Derbyshire who was severely beaten shortly after he started at his secondary school at the age of 11. (His parents do not want him to be identified at this stage). He needed medical attention and the doctor examining him was so horrified that he advised calling the police. The police decided not to prosecute.

As well as these three cases, there are four others filed where children have been beaten, two of whom are girls. There are also two more cases, likely to be decided shortly, similar to those of Campbell and Cosans. One concerns John Townend, who missed his last term at a Rotherham school because he refused to be caned; and the other Anthony Durairaj, who missed the last six months of schooling in Birkenhead for the same reason and ended up with no qualifications.

Durairaj's parents were taken to court for not sending him to school and Wallasey magistrates fined them £50 each and ordered them to pay £200 in costs. It would be surprising if they were not awarded substantial damages in any settlement if they were not awarded substantial damages in any settlement with the United Kingdom. Anthony Durairaj has been unemployed ever since.

Lucy Hodges

How do they keep order in class?

The number of canings at Eaglesfield comprehensive school in Woolwich, south London, was averaging about 200 a term until corporal punishment was banned by the Inner London Education Authority almost exactly a year ago. Dr William Chapman, the head, was a great believer in the effectiveness of the cane as a means of maintaining a high standard of discipline throughout the school.

"We used it mostly for trivial offences like swearing, petty extortion, smoking, deliberate disobedience, bullying, and vandalism. Now we're using exclusion, or temporary suspension, instead of the cane. I feel sending a child home is for more damaging than a quick smack over the bottom, and the amount of teacher time involved is incredible. At the moment we're keeping our standards up, but my God at what a cost!" Dr Chapman said.

Yet, when pressed, Dr Chapman admits that apart from the extra pressure on teacher time, nothing seems to have changed much in the school, for better or worse, since the canings stopped. And that seems to be the experience of pro-caning heads in other parts of the country where corporal punishment has already been abolished.

So perhaps the decisions, past and imminent, of the European Court of Human Rights at Strasbourg, which are likely to herald the end of Britain's solitary position as the last caning nation in Europe, will much less effect school discipline and standards of behaviour than many teachers, and parents, fear.

But is it sense to impose a ban on reluctant teachers? Dr John Rae, Head Master of Westminster School, is one of the sponsors of STOPP, the teachers' lobby group that has been campaigning for the abolition of corporal punishment, but is nevertheless firmly opposed to a dictat being delivered from Strasbourg.

"I feel the issue has been hyped up quite out of perspective. An awful lot of nonsense is talked by both the opponents and supporters of corporal punishment. It's nothing like so important as people make out. It is neither as damaging or beneficial as it's said to be. I'm against it and wouldn't use it. but I think schools should be allowed to decide for themselves what form of discipline suits them best."

Many schools have found that corporal punishment has been dying a natural death. Mr Dennis Silk, Warden of Radley, said he used to use the cane, "but it's just gone out of fashion. People are reluctant to indulge in something which only 15 years ago was very normal. We've never said we won't use it, but I don't think I myself have beaten a boy for five years. I don't feel terribly strongly about it, but I think I now feel that it's slightly distasteful".

Mr Tim Mardell, head of High Storrs comprehensive school in Sheffield, argues that any change involving attitudes needs time to be introduced. He started to reduce caning when he arrived at the school 15½ years ago, and only just completed its abolition 18 months ago. Fourteen years may be considered rather excessive, but some time is important to gain the acceptance of teachers, parents and pupils.

"It's best to get rid of corporal punishment slowly, quietly and without a fuss", Mr Mardell says. "It's no good rushing it. When pupils are used to being beaten, they expect it. If they're not beaten, they assume that that is somehow an indication of weakness on the part of the school".

Other schools in Sheffield will not enjoy such a leisurely transition: the council has just decided to prohibit caning in all secondary schools from next September.

What other sanctions are available to schools? Detention, or keeping children in to do extra work after school, is quite widely used, but it is costly in terms of teachers' time, and it may be very difficult, particularly in rural areas, to arrange transport home for the children. It is also actually illegal for a school to detain a child beyond the normal school day against the parents' wishes, though most parents are not aware of that.

Exclusion, or banning a child from attending school for up to three days, is also widely used. Some schools find that that is an effective deterrent, as it involves the parents being told and brought into school for an interview with the head teacher, and that can result in a worse thrashing for the child than he would ever have got at school. However, other schools say that many of their pupils are all too happy to get a few free days off school. It also disrupts the education of those who probably need it most.

The ultimate sanction, which may only be used with the approval of the school governors, is the suspension or expulsion of the child. Although a complete change of environment can produce a beneficial change in behaviour, particularly where a gang of miscreants are broken up, suspension is not liked and is used extremely sparingly. It involves a public admission by the school that it has failed with that child, and also too often, the suspended child is left free to roam the streets for sometimes months on end before another school willing to accept him is found.

Another means of dealing with disruptive pupils has become increasingly popular over the last few years — the special behavioural unit, either on the school premises or off-site, which has been dubbed the "sin-bin" by the popular press Some are no better than their nickname suggests, a convenient dumping ground for unruly pupils; others do an excellent job in winning the children's confidence and trust, and getting regular attendance.

All are limited in their usefulness, however. They are expensive; with a high ratio of staff to pupils and, being relatively small, can only offer a very restricted educational diet with the result that it becomes increasingly difficult to get pupils back into ordinary schooling the longer they stay. The HM Inspectorate for schools' (HMI) view is that pupils should only be removed from school as a last resort.

So what can schools do to maintain good discipline? People often talk of discipline as if it were synonymous with sanctions; it is not, no more than good discipline in the home is. It depends, as in the home, on the many, often not easily discernable, factors that make up on the whole climate of the school, or what has become known, since Proffessor Michael Rutter's now world famous research on the effect of secondary schools, as the "ethos" of the school.

Professor Rutter found in his intensive, longitudinal study of 12 inner London schools, published in 1979 under the title "Fifteen thousand hours", that some schools produced better-behaved, better-educated pupils than others, even after allowance had been made for variables like the children's home background and level of intelligence. Why?

There appears to be no correlation between the level or type of punishment in a school and the behaviour, educational progress or attendance rates of pupils, save in schools with high rate of corporal punishment, where behaviour appears to be rather worse than in other schools.

Nor did factors like school size, different types of organizations, quality and age of the premises, or the ammount of space available, seem to have any significant effect.

The most important characteristics that appeared to promote both good conduct and academic success appeared to be relatively minor things like teacher arriving on time for class; good preparation of lessons; the regular setting and marking of homework; a lot of praise and encouragement of pupils, and not too much disciplinary action — but, when taken, firm; teachers' setting a good example in dress behaviour; even the display of pupils' work on walls and flowers in the entrance hall — all the things that helped make up the school's ethos.

What Professor Rutter said was not new; but he had produced quantifiable evidence, albeit on a very small scale and using a form of multiple regression analysis that was later questioned by other education researchers. Two years earlier, the HMI had come out with a similar view in their report on "Ten Good Schools".

There appears to be no ideal set of rules or regulations. What is appropriate and effective in one school may not be in another. Much will depend on the expectations of the local community, the quality of the staff, the style of the head, the traditions of the school, and the age of the pupils.

But it is generally agreed that whatever set of rules is adopted must be explicitly stated, consistent, reasonable, and firmly adhered to by the staff. It is also essential that the children respect their teachers, and that respect is immeasurably more difficult to obtain than in the past. It is no longer something that is given unquestioningly as the teacher's due

Pupil violence and misconduct are often blamed on too much permissiveness in schools and society at large. However, the HMI found in their recent survey of secondary schools that less than 5 per cent were too permissive, while they considered nearly one fifth of schools to be too authoritarian in that they were so bogged down with petty rules and regulations and so rigid in their teaching styles that they actually provoked confrontations.

But we have still much to learn about what makes a good school and why. How individual teachers handle potentially disruptive pupils is one of the areas about which we know little. Dr Williams Parry-Jones, consultant psychiatrist at the Warneford Hospital in Oxford, who has been carrying out research in that area, says that nearly all teachers see disruptiveness as a product of the pupil's disturbance, while he believes that it is part of a dynamic relationship between the teacher and the pupil.

"The pupil may initiate an incident with some relatively minor act, but from then on the teacher plays a very important part in exacerbating or abating the incident. Once it has started, it seems to develop a life of its own, as it were, which may however be modified by the response from the teacher or the pupil. We've analysed that sequence in great detail on videotape, looking for the critical transition points at which matters might either improve or get out of control. I think disruption can be handled effectively, and that teachers can be trained to do so, but virtually no teacher training course provides that training."

Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent



Beak and birch: Spy's caricature of Swinburne's tutor, the Reverend James Leigh Jones, Lower Master of Eton 1878–1887.

The practice abroad: most have abandoned the British need to beat

● No other European country — in the Eastern or the Western block — officially retains corporal punishment in its schools as the British do, though it is thought unofficial beating does go on in some places.

On the Continent the practice has been abolished by legislation, regulation or by falling into disuse. Apart from the United Kingdom, the last country in Europe to allow the beating of schoolchildren was the Republic of Ireland which banned the cane on February 1, this year.

Outside Europe, however, corporal punishment is fairly widespread and continues in the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and much of the Third World. STOPP, the Society of Teachers Opposed to Physical Punishment, points out that these countries are former British colonies.

The USA

In America only four states and 11 cities have abolished corporal punishment though in one or two other states parents' objections must be honoured. Five years ago the US Supreme Court gave its seal of approval to the cane by ruling that its use as a disciplinary tool was not *cruel and unusual* punishment, denying children so disciplined protection under the Eighth Amendment of the Constitution.

The case, Ingraham v Wright, caused a furore and was decided by the narrowest possible margin (five votes to four). In reality corporal punishment is not widely used in the USA and tends to be concentrated in certain areas, such as the deep South.

Canada

Three out of Canada's 10 provinces have abolished corporal punishment and in Australia it is universal except in Queensland where it has been abolished for girls and in New South Wales where parental objections must be upheld.

Europe

By contrast, four European countries — Greece, Italy, Iceland and Luxembourg — say that corporal punishment has never been allowed in their schools. In Poland it was abolished in 1783 and in The Netherlands it fell into disuse early last century.

Corporal pnishment was made illegal in Belgium in 1867, in Austria in 1870 and in France in 1881. It was abolished in the Soviet Union in 1917, immediately after the Bolshevik Revolution, and in Turkey in 1923 after the declaration of the Republic. By contrast, flogging with the cat o' nine tails and the birch was only abolished in English prisons in 1976.

Some European counties abolished corporal punishment in schools in the same year. Cyprus, Denmark and Spain acted in 1967. In Germany abolition has been implemented by state rather than federal legislation *during the 1970s. Although* technically legal in Switzerland, corporal punishment has completely died out in recent years.

It was prohibited in Sweden in 1958 and three years ago the Swedes went even further. They outlawed the beating of children by parents. There are no penalties attached to the new law, however, and prosecutions are brought under existing laws covering assault.

ENTERTAINMENTS

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MERMAID TH. ALEC McCOWEN

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE. ROY HUDD & CHRISTOPHER TIMOTHY in "UNDERNEATH THE ARCHES"

VAUDEVILLE. GORDON JACKSON in AGATHA CHRISTIE'S CARDS ON THE TABLE

VICTORIA PALACE THEATRE

CONCERTS

THEATRES

CINEMAS

EXHIBITIONS

BANKSIDE GALLERY, 48 Hopton St, Blackfriars, SE1. Royal Society of Painters in Watercolours Spring Exhibition. Until March 10. Daily 10-5. Suns 2-6. Closed Monday.

ART GALLERIES

Television

Recycling exercise

Nick Mead runs an architectural relic service. He moves in with his men when some period piece is awaiting the indiscriminate attention of the demolition men and removes the mementoes of craftsmanship long gone.

He told *Forty Minutes*, who covered his activities in *Saved in the Nick of Time* on BBC2 last night, that he did it for money but also because *preservation is a worthwhile* way of earning a living, and he was entirely convincing. He has learnt that "the bigger the lot, the fewer the customers", but despite this allows romanticism to override economics and even rescues things he knows "have great white elephant potential". One such was a marble *fountain with bronze* embellishments that could impede progress around his Chelsea warehouse for some time.

He would prefer that Britain retained her relics but, as there is not that much money about and *as business* in any period is business, he has to recycle much of his salvage in America where the appetite for things of yore, anybody's yore, is voracious.

So an old sweeping staircase is packaged for Mrs Douglas's Heaven on Earth *establishment in Houston*, an interesting-sounding place that caters for the matched *and despatched*, being both a marriage parlour and a funeral parlour.

We did not see Mrs Douglas — too busy, I should think — but we did see Mrs Bobby Wolfe whose husband, Fletcher, is founder and director of the Atlanta Boy Choir. The boys were singing "Nymphs and Shepherds" out in the garden, which was full of relics from here and there, including a porch rescued by Mr Mead *from* a Victorian house in Beckenham. "Fletcher and I have been recycling since before we were married," confided Mrs Wolfe, and it startled for a moment before the camera moved from her to the trophies.

However, some things do stay at home. We saw a tenor bell being hoisted high at Canterbury Cathedral, recycled from a peal of bells from a disused church at Marylebone, and a clock from the same church now in working order. The clock cost £198 10s to make in the middle of *the nineteenth* century; now it *would* cost £12,500. It was a bargain at £1,500. *Then there* was the belle époque conservatory which somehow found its way from France to Knightsbridge.

Mr Mead earns his living quite often, as when removing the clock, at some risk. Apart from the feeling that he is doing a good job, it has other compensations: "The sound of breaking glass", he said, "can be very satisfying at times". This contribution to the *Forty Minutes* series, which is also to have an extended life, was well produced by Robyn Wallis.

Dennis Hackett

Cinema

Emotional touch of the old master

On Golden Pond (A)

Odeon, Haymarket

Mad Max II (X)

Warner West End; Classic, Haymarket; Studio, Oxford Circus

Imposters

ICA

Dear Boys

Roxie Cinema Club

On Golden Pond is a return to a kind of film—the well-made screenplay that uses all its artifice to manipulate the audience's laughter and tears—that long ago went out of style. It also revives the almost forgotten pleasure of *yielding up* our emotions to be worked over as the body might be submitted to the hands of a skilful masseur. *Audiences* apparently have only been waiting for the chance. In the United States, *On Golden Pond* has earned $40m in four weeks, and stays, impregnable at the top of *Variety*'s chart of top-grossing pictures.

Directed by Mark Rydell, it is adapted by Ernest Thompson from his own Broadway play, one of a whole run of productions designed to show off the virtuosity of older stars. Henry Fonda and Katharine *Hepburn* play Norman and Ethel Thayer, an old couple eking out their last years in a summer cottage by an *idyllic forest lake, which* harbours a whole lifetime of memories for them. It is his eightieth birthday—"They get here so *fast*". His body and mind are failing; he fiercely resents the humiliations of age and employs all his invective and wit to rail against them. His wife, ten years younger, is patient, protective and defiant in her energy and enthusiasm for life.

Their daughter Chelsea (Jane Fonda) arrives for the birthday party, bringing her new fiancé and a load of old resentments against her father. She also brings her 12-year-old prospective stepson whom she rashly leaves to spend the summer with the old couple. The rest of the film, of course, is concerned with the understanding that grows up between the hostile child and the irascible old man—a bond that leap-frogs the generations and, in a gratifying pat dénouement, achieves *the reconciliation between father* and daughter that all their years together had failed to bring about.

The daughter, though Jane Fonda uses all her skill, is rather brusquely sketched; but the relationship of the other three characters is wonderfully deft in the writing, and formidably played. Henry Fonda and Katharine Hepburn never acted together in their youth (indeed they seem never to have even met until they came together on this film); but in their age they are a magical *teaming*. The poignancy of the characters is heightened by awareness of the actors' own fragility, but *physical frailty in no way impairs* their professional skills or personal glamour.

He is tetchy, watchful, wily, devastatingly precise in timing and delivery. She soars along on her own mannerism and dazzle, with sudden intimations of infinite depths of feeling beneath the eccentric surfaces. The small boy, Doug McKeon, makes a wholly equal third to the team. He is round-faced, blond, suspicious and wholly believable in the slow, unwilling process of making contact with another and very alien human being.



A bond that leap-frogs the generations: Doug McKeon with Henry Fonda

The reason this kind of piece, in which the manipulation of situation (*an accident that puts Norman's life* at peril; another near-death scene to wring tears; the tidy resolution of *life-long misunderstandings*) and consequently of our sentiments, has been so long mistrusted, is that sentimentality, manipulation and artifice are taken to imply untruth.

But the quality of this film, like a lot of older melodramas, is that the manipulation and artifice only work *because the premises* on which they are managed are in essence truthful. The characters are unquestionably truthful; and they are *used to* demonstrate truths as well as truisms. There is a lot of real pain in Norman's fear and hatred of age ("I don't want crowds of people watching me turn older", he grouses at the prospect of a birthday party), even when it is *expressed* in a style and tone that sometimes recall W. C. Fields. *There* is a sense of real love in their *crotchety marital* bicker. They tell us, too, that the assumed obligation to like one's relatives can often *mean hell; that a quaint old man* may well have been a younger s.o.b. and now deserves to pay the price for it.

In an old-fashioned and positive *sense, too, the* film is very *moral*. It sets out quite consciously to persuade us that the old are human too, that they may *still* have *things* to teach, and love left in them. It tells us (as Ethel Sayer teaches the child) "Sometimes you have to look hard at a person and realize he's doing the best he can". They are old moral lessons, but not bad things to hear again when they are well said.

Earlier films by Mark Rydell—*The Reivers, Cinderella Liberty* — showed the same direct, persuasive concern with the problems and the rewards of simply trying to understand other people. He is generous with charm and pleasures: the performers are given a background of *elegiac mood and scenery (the* lakeland is photographed by Billy Williams in predominant twilight *gold). These* are *the* sort *of* frank and innocent pleasures about which it would be foolish to be superior or defensively sophisticated.

Mad Max II offers the most extreme contrast. The original *Mad Max* was made for peanuts, but the startling skill of its director, George *Miller, in directing violent action* made it the biggest grossing film Australia had so far exported. The sequel has the benefit of a great deal more money, has a great deal more violent action, handled with the same verve and culminating in a prolonged automobile chase, and carries Australian movies to a new stage of infantilism.

The action of the new film takes place a year *or so further into the* future predicted by its predecessor. Global conflict escalating from the *Middle East has wiped out urban* civilization. Wild marauding gangs—ageing punks and cycle boys —roam the outback, and make sorties against a little outpost huddled around a solitary oil drill, the last source of wealth. Into this country rides Mad Max, as an unwilling Moses who eventually leads the people to the promised land—the tourist resorts of the Queensland Gold Coast.

It amalgamates every sort of movie myth, magic and reference. *The plot is classic Western, and* some of the characters are vaguely garbed as braves and squaws. There are touches of martial arts and sword-and-sorcery (the villains wear visors and use crossbows); there is a Shakespearian fool who rides a helicopter and plays Sancho to Max's Don; and a feral cave-child. Above all there are the cars—roaring, chasing, colliding, crashing, conflagrating. It is in its way a landmark of the cinema of action without sense.

Mark Rappaport is much admired in certain circles of independent cinema; a couple of years ago his *Scenic Route* won the BFI award for the most original film shown at the National Film Theatre during the previous twelve-month. His films exemplify effect and allusion without structure to give coherence or compulsion to the whole.

Imposters, his *latest film of* feature scale, has the outward form of Hollywood melodrama and is jam-packed with movie-buff references. The twin protagonists are stage illusionists using their act as a front for murder and a quest for lost treasure. One of them fancies their assistant; the other her boy-friend; while she herself is involved with another girl. It is pretty and cute and *sounds* a great deal more intriguing than in fact it is.

Those who see London as a new City of the Plain may well be cheered that the Roxie Club, established only a matter of weeks ago to show quality films on homo-erotic themes, is threatened with closure for *lack of support*. It will give less satisfaction to those who have welcomed several worthwhile oddities that might mever have turned up elsewhere in this country.

The Roxie's new (and let us hope not final) presentation is an idiosyncratic item from Holland, Paul de *Lussanet's Dear Boys, adapted from* a novel by the scandalizing writer Gerard Reve. It is an elegant, erotic game *about a writer who woos*—but fails to keep—a handsome gigolo, with tales of fast cars and sado-masochistic fantasies of wanton youths. The light tone and witty playing redeem the erotica from grossness.

David Robinson

Concerts

A tricky acoustic

LSO/Abbado

Barbican Hall/BBC, Radio 3

The new concert hall in the Barbican Centre seats its audience at three levels, the front row very close indeed to the low dais on which the orchestra sits. The Queen sat in the front row of the circle; behind and above that is a further circle. Leg room, at the back of the stalls, is *ample for a tall person*; the seats encourage upright posture, are softly upholstered, *and wide enough for this fat* Englishman's hips.

When you are seated, the appearance of the auditorium is bright and striking, with peanut butter-coloured wood on the gangway steps and behind the orchestra, the *latter's facing curiously* shaped to suggest oriental woodwind, or perhaps the pipes of an organ which, we gather, is not there. Above and to the side are red and white striped wooden surfaces, which look like Battenburg cake.

In the ceiling the lights are enclosed in what look like inverted brandy balloon glasses, a sparkling effect. On the wood-faced side walls *there are small* vents, as if for boxes, although they are not for occupation.

I hope that the hum of air-conditioning may be silenced in the auditorium before the next concert: it was a nuisance at the beginning of Elgar's Cello Concerto. *For* an orchestra as finely tuned as the LSO is when playing *for Claudio Abbado, the* acoustics of Barbican Hall are tricky at the moment, *perhaps more* for the audience than for the orchestra. The opening bars of Wagner's *Meistersinger* overture sounded reassuring, big and round in tone, more appetizing than they would in the Royal Festival Hall; the woodwind chirped vividly in the apprentices' section. At other times the string sound was unnaturally shrill, and cantabile violins seemed to lack body in Beethoven's *fourth piano concerto*.

It should be emphasized that Barbican audiences will have to retune their ears during early visits to the hall: *the* LSO will surely also find new ranges of sonority and balance, as it settles into its new home. I look forward to future concerts when it may be possible to hear the same orchestra from different parts of the auditorium.

This first concert offered Wagner and Beethoven, as detailed above, then Elgar's *Cello Concerto* and Ravel's *La valse*, nothing composed later than the early 1920s: the most recent composer represented was Sir Michael Tippett, who had written the programme notes for the concert (very interesting too, but should not he, or a living compatriot, have contributed a new composition to this momentous, *exciting event* in London's life?).

The emphasis was plainly on London as an international centre of music, with an Italian conductor in charge of the Barbican's resident orchestra, a Japanese cellist in the Elgar and a Russian-born pianist in the Beethoven. The cello and piano told well by themselves: curiously enough Yo Yo Ma's account of the Elgar *was as showy in self-expression* as Vladimir Ashkenazy's reading of the Beethoven *was intensely contained* and understated.

Both were contributions to an *occasion rather than* interpretations to remember for ever. The players have the opportunity, too, for changing their minds: a welcome feature of Barbican musical programmes is that each work will be performed several times in various concert contexts.

One's first and most influential impression of the Barbican centre as a place for listening to music is of the grand design in which this agreeable, still novel concert hall is tucked away, *seemingly in a corner of the* labyrinth. Barbican Hall itself is ripe for exploration, like the complex as a whole. Certainly it will make London's musical life richer, and probably more exciting, to judge from the first syllabus for the opening weeks.

William Mann

BBCSO/ Stockhausen

Festival Hall

On Wednesday Karlheinz Stockhausen made his first appearance in public with a British orchestra. The *Purcell Room* was sold out for his pre-concert talk, and there were not enough programmes for an audience considerably and obviously unexpectedly larger than that for most BBCSO concerts. The 89-piece orchestra assembled, two mime artists, Elizabeth Clarke and Alain Louafi, poised *on a raised dais above* the conductor, knelt before their maker and *Inori*, "*adorations for one or two soloists* with orchestra", began.

At *the heart of* the 70-minute work is embedded a musical germ or "formula" which, as in Stockhausen's earlier *Mantra*, encapsulates the work's entire energy. Here, though, the process of *genesis before it appears* complete is further systematized and expanded through a fantastically ingenious and sensitive schema of metre, instrumental timbre, dynamic and finally pitch. The ear is taught to recognize a seemingly inexhaustible pattern of attributes which the eye endorses in a corresponding chromatic scale of 13 prayer gestures which translate sound into "action melody".

Not until after the "formula" had been presented and its consequent harmonic and polyphonic evolution set into motion could I engage with the work at anything but a cerebral level. For all its emphasis on ritual, on performance, for all its freshness of aural perception, extended through electronic sound projection (Stockhausen's son Markus at the controls), Stockhausen's the laborious didacticism of the work's idea, only *emphasized by the mimed* visual aids, seemed irritatingly self-conscious, at times *even condescending*.

As the latter half progresses and the music's internal energies and conflicts are hatched from idea, the sense of adoration, of wonder at least at the workings of the composer's own microworld burgeons and begins to engage outside itself. But it seemed too late. As composer-conductor walked off, following the upward path through the orchestra taken by the mime artists, the applause had a character all its own. For all was solid respect, flecked with the calls of hero-worship, yet strangely lacking in warmth or spontaneous enthusiasm.

Hilary Finch

Opera

Nina

Playhouse, Oxford

Of all the composers who tried to write opera in an age that had been made for Mozart, Paisiello was one of the most successful, and *Nina, or Mad for Love* one of his most widely acclaimed creations. It was first produced in 1789, the year before *Cosi fan tutte*, and it reached *London in 1797*, when this paper was enraptured: "The string of sensibility", *my predecessor* declared, "seldom ceases to vibrate to the electric touch *of this exquisite composer.*"

Well, maybe. One of the virtues of Seamus McGrenera's production for the Oxford University Opera Club, only the second revival anywhere in modern times, is that it is not by any means convinced Paisiello had his finger on the pulse of human feeling, and yet it *shows how* an eighteenth-century audience might have seen *Nina* as the last word in sentimental romance, for the opera played before two audience: ourselves, and a Regency house party who are touched and amused when they are not singing the choruses.

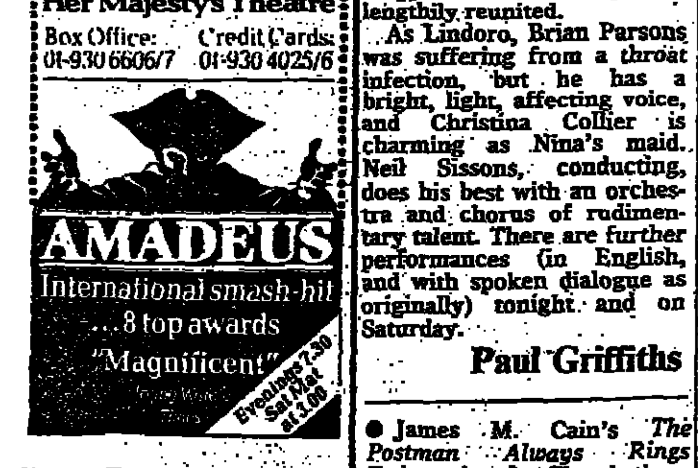
Without their constant presence, and the consequent double focus on the work, *Nina* would seem thin stuff. In the first act, we are introduced to the heroine, who has declined into pas*toral distraction* after the supposed death in a duel of her true love. She has a prettily melancholic aria which Clare Moll here sings beautifully, giving it sensitive expression and stylish ornamentation; the other gem is a quite extraordinary and wholly irrelevant shepherd's song accompanied only by a pair of oboes over a drone. Then, in the second act, Nina's Lindoro miraculously reappears and the couple are lengthily reunited.

As Lindoro, Brian Parsons was suffering from a *throat* infection, but he has a bright, light, affecting voice, and Christina Collier is charming as Nina's maid. Neil Sissons, conducting, does his best with an orchestra and chorus of rudimentary talent. There are *further* performances (in English, and with spoken dialogue as originally) tonight and on Saturday.

Paul Griffiths

● James M. Cain's *The Postman Always Rings Twice*, already filmed three times, has now been turned into an opera. Stephen Paulus's work will be given its premire at the Opera Theatre of St Louis, Missouri, on June 17. There are plans to bring it to the Edinburgh Festival in *1983*, together with St Louis's production of Delius's *Fennimore and Gerda*, which was highly praised on this page last summer.

Also on this year's St Louis season is the American première of Prokofiev's *Maddalena*, of which Edward Downes has completed the orchestration.





Dance

Martins confirmed in Balanchine's favour

New York City Ballet is so associated with the life and works of George Balanchine that it is occasionally difficult to remember that it *does* have other choreographers. Notably, of course, there is Jerome Robbins. But the *company* has in the past encouraged yet others; most have come from the company *itself* — *Todd* Bolender, Jacques d'Amboise and John Clifford among them. Also, *although never a dancer* with the company, one of the balletmasters, John Taras, has also been a regular contributor to the company's string of novelties.

Now a newcomer has appeared, taking an increas*ingly significant* role in company activities, Peter Martins. This season, unobtrusively, *without* even the muted fanfare of a single press announcement, Martins has been *appointed a ballet*-master to the company, a title he now shares with Balanchine, Robbins and Taras.

During the current *winter* season at Lincoln Center's New York State Theater, Balanchine has left the new ballets to Martins and Rob*bins. It could* be a harbinger of the future, because, although Balanchine will be much in *evidence during this* spring's Stravinsky Festival, it might be that the reins of power are, to some extent, being passed over. Martins, in most *ballet* circles, is being freely referred to as Balanchine's successor, in which case Robbins would obviously become the princi*pal* choreographer. So the two new works, Martins's *The Magic Flute*, showing him as still very much Balanchine's favoured apprentice, and the consummate mastery of Robbins's *The Gershwin Concerto*, took *on special significance*.

The Magic Flute was originally created for students of the School of American Ballet at their annual public performances last summer. The staging for the company, which has proved popular with audiences, has been considerably amended, and its amplifications are generally a considerable improvement. With new settings by David Mitchell and pleasant peasant costumes *by* Ben Benson, the ballet looks attractive and even modestly opulent — a rarity for the decoratively spartan City Ballet.



Peter Martins himself with Darci Kistler in "The Magic Flute"

Yet why Martins, or perhaps more specifically Balanchine, wanted this antique curiosity in the repertory *remains a mystery*. The idea came from Balanchine himself, with Martins acting strictly on orders. Obviously Balanchine has some vestigial nostalgic affection for this ballet which, with music by Riccardo Drigo, was first *staged* at St Petersburg's Maryinsky in 1893. It received a chilly reception but remained somehow in the repertory and it seems that, as a young dancer growing up in Petrograd, Balanchine on occasion appeared in both the leading male roles. So much for sentiment.

After its initial production in St Petersburg, it had its New York première 20 years later with Anna Pavlova and Alexandre *Volinine*. The ballet seemed to have died with Pavlova, but there were some apparently unwilling to accept as much. What Martins has done is, of course, not a revival of the lost Ivanov choreography, but a pastiche reconstruction *that draws*, to some extent, on Martins's Danish schooling and his familiarity with the narrative ballets of Bournonville.

Martins's recension of the ballet, while possibly unnecessary in the first place — although even that is arguable since it adds to the thin variety of the *repertory* — has been achieved uncommonly well. Despite the boring score, *Martins* has used the simple story — boy, with help of passing god and magic instrument, gets girl away from parents and marauding marquis — for an exercise of style, his own and the company's. Its bucolic humours are damply and camply acceptable and the ballet should prove popular.

In the première the leading roles were buoyantly danced by the 17-year-old Darci Kistler and, unexpectedly, Peter Martins, who was substituting for an injured Helgi Tomasson, himself substituting for an injured Ib *Andersen*. At *later performances*, Tomasson recovered, giving a more animated account of the hero, partnering the 19-year-old Katrina Killian, who had created the role at the original school performances. The Massine-*like character* part *of* the Marquis was brightly taken by another young newcomer, Bruce Padgett.

If you wanted *to be cute*, *you could* suggest that Jerome Robbins had created a time and motion study in *The Gershwin Concerto*, his new ballet which has just *been given its world première*. Yet cuteness was the last thing in Robbins's mind *in this* complex, scintillating and oddly engaging ballet.

It is Robbins at his most masterly. Over the four decades he has worked as a choreographer, Robbins has captured two things. The first is the art of choreogra*phic characterization* — the realization that dancing is an extension of people, not an *exploitation of them*. *His* second area of mastery is in the matter of musical visualization.

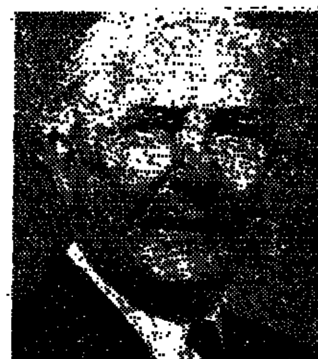
Consider this new ballet — demonstrating Gershwin's time and Robbins's motion. The mood of the music — its varied texture — is *strange*. "Symphonic jazz" set out to combine popular dance forms with classical music. The mixture never gelled, but in the Gershwin Piano Con*certo, as in his folk* opera *Porgy and Bess*, can be seen all the grounds for the unfounded optimism. Robbins takes the Concerto on its own terms and premises in the Charleston-impregnated first movement, the *bluesy* second and the uninhibited jazziness of the last.

The ballet is placed against a blue and lavender art deco setting by Santo Loquasto. A *handsome adaptable* background, redolent of 1925, the time of the concerto, changes for each movement. Loquasto's simple costumes, rust *for the boys*, plum for the girls and white for the four principals, appropriately strike up a more contemporary band. The choreography cleverly uses counterpointed movements to define the music, particularly the piano *and orchestra*. In *style it is* classical yet not only uses such natural movements as walking, running or — perhaps less natural — waltzing, but also enlivens the piece with wild flashes of invention, such as an instant when *Christopher d'Amboise* whirls a swooned Darci Kistler around his shoulder.

Clive Barnes

Foreign Secretaries from the American Revolution to Zimbabwe




Charles James Fox (1782-83) — a humiliating treaty; Sir Edward Grey (1905-16) — foreign affairs dominated politics; Anthony Eden (1935-38, 1940-45, 1951-55), Selwyn Lloyd (1955-60), Lord Carrington (1979-) — coping with Britain's vulnerability to external events

200 cheers for the F.O.

by David Watt

The mild and suitably parsimonious rejoicings ordained by Authority this month to mark the 200th anniversary of the founding of the Foreign Office and the Home Office, will not, I suppose, be joined in with universal fervour even in Whitehall. The first of these great Departments of State has never been particularly popular in the world at large, still less in the rest of the official machine, by which it is traditionally regarded as stand-offish and too big for its boots; the second has become generally notorious (and not without some justification) for obscurantism and official ham-handedness.

And yet some kind of celebration is surely in order. For one thing, the original idea was such a bright one. Before the reorganization of March 1782, administration was managed — or rather mismanaged — by two geographical departments, the Northern and the Southern, in one or other of which miscellaneous affairs of state, whether domestic, foreign, or colonial, were shovelled higgledy-piggledy.

History does not relate, so far as I can make out, to whose clerkly mind — or when — the blinding revelation was given that things might be better organized by distinguishing those matters which required direct administration (i.e. the home and colonial) from those (i.e. the foreign) which needed quite different diplomatic techniques. But it was undoubtedly a flash of genius that deserves recognition even two centuries later.

Another good reason for rooting around in the dusty attics of bureaucratic history in this fashion was pointed out by Professor Michael Howard in his brilliant commemorative lecture at Chatham House yesterday. The 1782 departmental reshuffle was made possible — perhaps, in part, even prompted — by one of the worst pieces of mismanagement ever perpetrated by a British Government, namely the loss of the North American colonies.

Lord Cornwallis's surrender at Yorktown five months earlier brought down Lord North's ministry and opened the way to change, even if it meant that one of the first duties of Charles James Fox, newly-minted Foreign Secretary, was to negotiate the terms of a humiliating treaty.

There are distinct consolations in contemplating this wreckage, not only as a trite example of good coming out of evil, but as a reminder of how calamitous Britain's position then appeared to be. The British past was bright and powerful; the future looked bleak and impoverished; lamentations and predictions of limitless decline filled the air. The fact that within 50 years Britain had become the superpower of the nineteenth century does not prove anything about out national future in the twenty-first century, but it puts a fresh perspective on our present discontents.

To my mind, however, the most interesting aspect of the anniversary is presented by the question of bureaucratic demarcation with which I began. There is an intriguing irony in the fact that we are celebrating the convenient and successsful division of our administrative arrangements into internal and external affairs, at a moment when the lines between the two are becoming more and more blurred.

If one follows the preoccupations of British governments since the Foreign Office was established it is possible (by gross oversimplification) to trace a fairly straightforward pattern in three phases. In the first, which covers the whole of the nineteenth century, we see the steady rise of foreign (including, of course, imperial) concerns, in the scale of importance until by the beginning of this century they dominated all other considerations. The Foreign, Colonial, and India Offices—and of course the attendant War Office and Admiralty — became the power centres of Whitehall; their collective needs and concerns took precedence over, and constantly distorted, all other domestic and economic considerations.

After the First World War, this process was gradually reversed. With the rise of Labour and the welfare state, the domestic imperatives became increasingly insistent until by the 1960s foreign policy could be seen as the handmaid, even the slave, of Britain's internal needs—and particularly of social and economic difficulties.

The third (and current) phase is more balanced and more ambiguous. Britain's vulnerability to external events has steadily increased in the last 20 years and this has enhanced the importance of foreign policy. On the other hand, the interdependence of states and the interpenetration of their economies is now so great on the international scene that almost every aspect of domestic affairs is transformed by them. Interest and exchange rate policy, energy policy, agricultural policy, trade policy, inward and outward investment policy—it is hardly possible to distinguish the internal from the external ramifications of any of them.

Important consequences flow from this, as they also do from the fact that most other countries are in the same boat. One is that the coordination of British policy in the conventional fringe policy field becomes increasingly complicated. The proliferation of Cabinet committees is necessary to prevent wires getting crossed, and that in turn gives more power to the Cabinet Secretariat at the expense of Departments.

Mrs Thatcher's half-hankering for a formal Prime Minister's Department has, I gather, been abandoned for the time being, but the force of circumstances is moving things steadily in that direction.

Another result is that the Foreign Office, if it wishes to keep its end up in Whitehall, is obliged to spawn experts on a large variety of subjects formerly regarded as outside its expertise, while at the same time the Treasury, in order to keep a firm control of public expenditure, has amassed experts in foreign and defence policy. All this strengthens the hold of the Civil Service in general over policy — at the expense of departmental Ministers, including Foreign Secretaries, who cannot carry everything in their heads and would kill themselves if they tried.

But in the long run it must also affect the position of the Foreign Service itself. The Central Policy Review Staff Report on Overseas Representation (written mainly by domestically orientated advisers) recommended four years ago that the Home and Foreign Services should be amalgamated on the ground that many of their functions now overlapped. This take-over bid was premature, and was successfully shaken off, but the bidders will undoubtedly be back before many years are out, and they will not always fail.

The future of the office of Foreign Secretary itself is harder to predict. The ease of modern communications and the tendency of governments, particularly in the Third World, to be identified with individual politicians, has made Foreign Secretaries intensely peripatetic, and it is doubtful whether this has actually enhanced their importance or devalued it by making them into glorified ambassadors when they should be at home, making policy and fighting their corner in Cabinet.

The crucial factor in all this, naturally, is the Prime Minister. It has always been open to Prime Ministers to appoint weak Foreign Secretaries and to run their own foreign policy. Some, like Gladstone and Salisbury, did so even in the nineteenth century, just as some, like Attlee and Mrs Thatcher, have been more or less ready to do the reverse in modern times. Their own bent and the political needs of the moment will obviously continue to produce wide variations. But again, the long-run trend, here and perhaps throughout the world, seems likely to be at the expense of the existing institutions.

Because domestic politics and domestic economics are at the mercy of international politics and economics, these last are too important to be left to Foreign Offices.

There is an awkward dilemma here. Britain will need to employ diplomacy (defined in Sir Ernest Satow's celebrated words as "the application of intelligence and tact to the conduct of relations between governments") more skilfully in the next 20 years than ever before because influence must now do the work of power.

We have in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office a superb professional machine for executing this purpose. But the question is who is to make policy over the enormous field in which the external and internal factors merge and over which commentators, television pundits, parliaments and voters are now swarming.

The Foreign Office would claim to be able to fulfil this function as well, but with the best will in the world and even with an able Foreign Secretary it is hard to see how they can do it.

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A budget to come to the aid of all parties

by Frank Field, MP

The public discussion on the run-up to the Budget has the same unreal quality about it as in previous years. Almost all the talk centres on how little room there is to manoeuvre and yet, more than likely, the Chancellor will make little mention of the hundred or so tax reliefs — or tax benefits, to describe them more accurately — which exempt more than 50 per cent of the nation's personal income from tax.

Here is an issue on which MPs across parties should be able to find some agreement. A radical reform of all the tax benefits offers the chance to increase personal freedom. Tax benefits are granted only if taxpayers spend their money in a way which the Government thinks is desirable. Reform offers the chance of cutting the rates of tax — so increasing the taxpayer's freedom of choice — while increasing expenditure on social security benefits.

Means — tested benefits build a ceiling over the heads of the poor, thereby cementing them into poverty. Others, like child benefit, act as a floor on which people can build by their own efforts without being penalized. Additional expenditure here allows claimants to spring themselves from poverty. The individual and collective gains on the freedom front should be clear to most taxpayers.

Three tax reforms are essential if increasing personal freedom is to be a main aim of government policy. The first is to allow all tax benefits at the standard rate of tax only. By itself, this change will bring in something like £750m in extra revenue.

A second reform is to put a cash ceiling on all tax benefits other than the personal allowances. How such a policy would work can be seen if we take just one of the main tax benefits. About £2,000m is paid out as mortgage interest relief. It would be wrong to wipe out this benefit overnight, but a cash ceiling could be applied at the current level, and this sum spread over a growing number of owner-occupiers in succeeding years.

The gains from this particular reform are considerable. Had it been implemented in 1975, the additional revenue from applying a cash ceiling policy to just four tax benefits is shown in the table below. Over a five-year period the savings would have amounted to over £3,800m and, in the last year alone, the Exchequer would have collected an additional £1,800m which illustrates just how fast the expenditure on tax benefits is growing.

A third reform must centre on redistributing income from men to women, while at the same time persuading taxpayers to spread more effectively the income earned from up to 40 years' work over the two vulnerable periods in most people's lives — when they have children and when they retire. The lead-in to this reform centres on the married man's tax allowance.

At present, married women gain a tax benefit through the working lives of their husbands, and the tax benefit is paid to their husbands. Some groups advocate the abolition of the married man's tax allowance, but I do not think this can be justified.

The peak period of working-class affluence is when both parents are working and the children have grown up. Given the low level of support to families with children in the past, we should not penalize those families now just because their children have reached maturity.

> 'Given the low-level of support to families with children in the past, we should not penalize those families now just because their children have reached maturity'

I do believe it would be politically possible, however, to apply a cash ceiling to the married man's tax allowance and for the money to be channelled to households with children under five. If this "cash ceiling" approach had been applied to the married man's tax allowance in 1975/76, then by last year the cash payment for households with children under five would have stood at £10.50 a week. This reform would therefore initiate a steady redistribution of income from men to women, at the same time beginning the process of matching people's income to their lifetime's needs.

The large increase in revenue resulting from reforming the tax-benefit welfare state should be earmarked to raise the tax threshold, to cut the rates of tax, while at the same time beginning to rebuild the welfare state so that it acts as a floor on which people can build by their own efforts.

A key benifit in remodelling the welfare state is the child-benefit scheme. The larger the injection of funds into this scheme, the greater will be the decrease in the numbers of poor families. And because child benefit is deducted from social-security payments, the larger the child benefit the greater the incentive to work is for those low wage earners with children. Similarly, a major child benefit increase will begin to redress the additional tax burden placed on family taxpayers since 1979.

A flourishing child-benefit system has other advantages. It transfers income from men to women and it increases the range of choices, and thereby the freedom, enjoyed by families. The importance of child benefit in helping to determine the type of society in which we live is therefore difficult to overstate.

But the necessary funds for it will be found only if politicians are prepared to reform the tax-benefit welfare state. For this to happen will require MPs to take a broader viewpoint than the traditional class approach to the Budget which has dominated debates for the last hundred years to more.

The author is Labour MP for Birkenhead

Savings on selected tax benefits by applying a cash ceiling 1975/76

Tax benefit	Total savings by 1980/81 £m
Life assurance premiums	740
Mortgage interest relief	2325
Pension schemes	570
Retirement annuity relief for the self employed	190
Total	3825

How Kincora could still harm Ian Paisley

Symbols are important in Northern Ireland. As Martin Smyth, Presbyterian minister, Grandmaster of the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland and official Unionist parliamentary candidate, canvassed a Belfast housing estate a few days ago, he carried a crumpled Union Jack in one hand, as he shook voters' hands with the other.

The Rev William McCrae of the Free Presbyterian Church, campaigning a mile away, had an equally potent symbol. He was preceded by the head of his church and leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, the Rev Ian Paisley.

In competition for the South Belfast seat left vacant by the murder of the Rev Robert Bradford, the DUP and the Official Unionists have slung clerical mud at each other across that half-forgotten gulf which divides Ulster's unionists. Although the bickering this week reached the threat of writs, not one word is about the issue which dominates many conversations away from the hustings and which could alter the shape of Protestant politics: the Kincora homosexual scandal.

That murky story, which combines sex and paramilitary violence in one topic for gossip, will continue to haunt the province's politics long after the result of the by-election is known this afternoon.

Back in the early 1970s British ministers and civil servants cherished the belief that the Official Unionist monopoly of the Protestant vote should be allowed to dismantle itself. If the idea was to liberate usefully moderate tendencies it has not worked out that way. The subsequent intense competition in intransigence between Paisley and the declining Official Unionists has steadily cut down areas of possible political agreement between the Protestant and Catholic communities.

The by-election has been billed as an index of whether the Official Unionists can stop Paisley's bandwagon, but the figures suggest that even if the Official Unionists hold on to the seat — and they probably will — it may still not check Paisley's rise. In local elections last year his party became the first non-Official Unionist group ever to exceed a 20 per cent share of the vote.

In addition to Paisley's rival attraction, the Official Unionists' internal contradition between wanting devolved power and to cling more tightly to Britain, their shortage of money, their leadership squabbles and their lack of flair have fed the DUP with an unprecedented new coalition of Protestant voters.

The votes in last year's council elections in South Belfast leave the parties almost level. But Smyth is a considerable figure in his own community; McCrae, although backed by an energetic machine, is not from the area. He is probably the only politician in the country who has ever run in a local election against an opponent whose only manifesto promise was that, if elected, he would hit McCrae. The man was elected and the entire manifesto was carried out.

The Kincora affair is perhaps the only issue which might check Paisley. Events are now in train — fresh investigations by the Royal Ulster Constabulary, a new inquiry into the previous RUC inquiries by an outside chief constable, and a judicial inquiry after both of those — which will ensure that the boys' home stays in the news.

William McGrath, housefather of the home and founder of a small Protestant paramilitary splinter group called Tara, is now serving a four-year prison sentence for a variety of homosexual offences against boys under his care. The unanswered questions are: were all the offences followed up, and who knew what was happening when?

Two people have said they warned Paisley in the early 1970s about McGrath's activities; Paisley has said that one of them who had evidence was not prepared to confront McGrath and that nobody mentioned to him that in 1972 McGrath was put in charge of Kincora.

Paisley has dismissed the publicity given to the allegations as Republican-inspired, and there claim and counterclaim have stalemated. But he is said to have been shaken by the row. Even if he did not know McGrath worked at Kincora, the man who launched a Save Ulster from Sodomy campaign and — in improbable alliance with the local Roman Catholic hierarchy — will now oppose the Government's intention to bring Northern Ireland's homosexuality laws into line with the rest of the country, does not appear to have pursued the allegations with great vigour. McGrath was simply banned from using a Free Presbyterian church for an Orange Order service.

If Paisley has reached the peak of his popularity, or if it were to decline, the balance of Unionist power and the chances of any initiative which Mr Prior, the Northern Ireland Secretary, might get off the ground would be changed. In standing for any possible assembly, Paisley would certainly ask for a mandate to wreck the London-Dublin talks, and the Official Unionists would have to follow suit.

Should Paisley build successfully on his 26.5 per cent share of the vote last year and reach 30 per cent, he could stall an assembly indefinitely on that issue. The 70 per cent "weighted majority" figure in Mr Prior's scheme is designed on the assumption that he will not reach 30 per cent.

That speculative arithmetic assumes that Mr Prior will solve the other problems still standing in the way of his plans, now due to be announced in the first week of April. Most important of all, he has yet to convince the Social Democratic and Labour Party that there is anything in it for them.

George Brock

A revolutionary epic finds its way West

Collins-Harvill, the imprint which published *Doctor Zhivago*, has secured rights to an "anti-revolutionary" epic which terrified the Soviet authorities even more than Pasternak's great book. Vasily Grossman's *Life and Fate* was completed in 1962, and promptly impounded by officers of the KGB who seized not only the manuscript, typescripts and rough drafts, but even the typewriter ribbons and sheets of carbon paper Grossman had used.

Grossman himself was not arrested, but he said that the arrest of his novel made him feel as if he had been strangled. He died 18 months later.

Only one other manuscript has been confiscated in such a way — Solzhenitsyn's *Gulag Archipelago*, which is a mine of factual historical information which might otherwise have been obliterated. Though Grossman was the first writer in any country to describe a Nazi extermination camp in detail, *Life and Fate* is a traditional, realistic, historical novel, comparable in scope to *War and Peace*.

Grossman was told before he died that there could be no hope of the novel being printed for the next two or three centuries, yet two copies of the complete text recently reached an emigre Russian man-of-letters in Paris. The acquisition of the English language rights was negotiated by Mark Bonham-Carter, a member of the publishing board of Collins and chairman of *Index on Censorship*, the journal which has already published a dramatic extract from the book.

Lost loos

They keep moving the loos, one hapless guest complained to PHS as the glittering, swirling carnival that was the offical opening of the Barbican Centre got underway on Wednesday evening. Are we on level seven or eight another puzzled?

What with the wine and the canapes, and the wine and the music, and the wine and the fireworks, and the wine and the midnight supper, such disorientation was inevitable.

A pikeman dropped his pike on the head of Anthony Camden, the London Symphony Orchestra's chairman, just as he was to be presented to the Queen. The man sitting next to PHS during the Royal Shakespeare Company's pantomine fell asleep, snoring loudly.

The most bracing part of the evening was when the dinner jacketed throng met the yelping and whistling residents of the nearby flats as the Reverend Ronald Lancaster's fireworks exploded above the spire of St Giles', Cripplegate in fantastic pyrotechnical celebration.

At this moment in time PHS must accept that trade union talk has worked its way up to a ruling situation as far as the English language is concerned. Opening the Barbican Centre, the Queen said: "At the end of the day . . ."

THE TIMES DIARY



Christopher Driver, the editor of the Good Food Guide, *has been offended by one of his principal award winners. The 1982* Guide *is to be published on March 15, and its verdicts are supposed to be a closely-guarded secret until then.*

Yet already Kay and Paul Henderson of Gidleigh Park at Chagford in Devon have sent out press releases announcing that theirs has been rated one of the three top restaurants and hotels in the country, joining the Connaught and Miller Howe in winning all the three distinction symbols the Guide *awards.*

"One really rather regrets having honoured such a boastful so-and-so", said Driver when told.

Tops at talking

We may not be good at much but, PHS can reveal, Britain has regained its position as the biggest talking shop in the world.

Figures to be published on Monday by the Union of International Associations in Brussels will show that London hosted as many international conferences as Paris last year (292 each), but that the United Kingdom as a whole, with 545, beat France and the United States to top the international league.

Russian rumours

Blithely unaware of the rumours swirling around Moscow at the moment, President Brezhnev yesterday went to the theatre, taking half the Politburo with him. They saw a new play about Lenin, entitled "*Thus We will be Victorious*" at the Moscow arts theatre. The performance was officially declared a "great success".

The Soviet leader does not often go to the theatre — ice hockey matches are more his line of enjoyment — but this play, starring one of the country's top actors Alexander Kalyagin, is clearly special.

For those determined to see conspiracy theories around them, there is a nice irony in the visit. The play deals with Lenin's final year of life and the question of his succession. Recently the youngest member of the Politburo, 51-year-old Mikhail Gorbachev, went along and led the applause. Lest any inference might be drawn, President Brezhnev was accompanied yesterday by Arvid Pelshe, at 83 the oldest Politburo member.

Singular star

In the superb and youthful cast of Julian Mitchell's *Another Country* at the Queen's Theatre it is fair to single out Kenneth Branagh only because without him the play would never have reached the West End. Robert Fox, the producer, had to fight to get him, because Branagh comes to a leading role straight from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.

More than 100 young actors auditioned for the role of Judd, the communist public schoolboy in whom Mitchell has drawn on the young idealists of the Spanish Civil War, John Cornford and Esmond Romilly.

Branagh, who swept the board of prizes at RADA, was so outstanding that Fox and director Stuart Burge successfully appealed to the London theatres' council in which managers sit with Equity representatives, that the production could not do without him, and that the usual rules about apprenticeship in the provinces had to be waived.

Branagh's drama school career sharply contrasts that of his brilliant co-star, Rupert Everett, who takes the Guy Burgess character in Mitchell's play. Everett was thrown out of the Central School of Drama after a year for being "too awkward."

Such is the excitement in the Commons about the possible security risks posed by young American researchers that our social services correspondent, who has been reporting Parliament for more than 18 years, was yesterday twice challenged and asked to identify herself. It has never happened to her before.

Body blow

PHS is not very keen on corporal punishment, and so is a little hurt to have been the recipient of a short, sharp missive from an organization called Dove. It is addressed to the staff of *The Times* in general and complains bitterly about our coverage of the European Court of Human Rights decision, and of the disorders at St Saviour's primary school, Liverpool.

It concludes: "Why don't you go back to hell, you evil child-haters, and take your lying presses with you? Yours, and hurry up and close down for good — You're just a nasty drag on the progress of this Land, (signed) Barry C. Vaughan (Negotiator)."

The British Museum lost some of its charm yesterday. The mighty chandelier above the staircase in the Edward VII wing crashed down, sending one visitor sprawling in fright.



Hard cheese

The landlord of Egon Ronay's English Cheese Pub of 1982 was told, just three days before receiving his award last month, that his licence would *not* be renewed. Now the pub, the Plough at Rusper, West Sussex, is up for sale by auction.

Peter Andrews took over the licence last May from his mother. In September he was convicted for possession of cannabis, not on the premises but at his home two miles away, and fined £40. When his licence, which expires in April, came up for renewal the police objected.

The Andrews family still hope they will be allowed to retain the pub, with Ronay complimented on its range of real ales, beamed bar and lawned garden as well as the cheeseboard. At Horsham on Friday week they will apply for the licence to be transferred to Andrews's father, John, and the manager, Derek Welton.

Diary Quiz

Our cryptic clues to the week's events:

1 Who said sorry with a daffodil?
2 Which group of workers got 14 per cent plus perks?
3 Where has Prince Ranjitsinjhi joined the Ku Klux Klan?
4 Which Welsh boyo was memorably laid by Mary Evans?
5 Where was another wonder of the world set off with a series of bangs?

Solutions on Monday.

PHS

هكذا من الاصل

TIMES PAST THE TIMES
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NO CREDIT IS DUE

The western response to events in Poland is still in a mess. It is now nearly three months since martial law was imposed, and nearly two months since the Nato meeting in Brussels agreed in principle on sanctions, including the suspension of commercial credits. So far these sanctions have had the effect of making life slightly more difficult for the Polish regime. For instance, about forty per cent of Polish industry is now idle for lack of western components. But there is no sign that the sanctions are biting politically. Indeed, the situation is getting worse. General Jaruzelski's visit to Moscow seems if anything to have postponed still farther the lifting of martial law. The news that internees are to be offered imigration to the West is another sign that attempts at dialogue with Solidarity are being abandoned. As Mr Humphrey Atkins admitted in the Commons on Wednesday, there is no change of heart on the part of the Polish authorities.

What is the West to do? Polish liberals who have been sent to the West on missions of persuasion argue that western sanctions are helping the hardliners by reducing the standard of living and pushing the Polish economy into closer dependence on Moscow. It is difficult to accept this reasoning. Western sanctions are limited and conditional. It has been made clear that they will be lifted when martial law is lifted, the internees are released, and dialogue resumed with Solidarity. The choice therefore lies with Warsaw and Moscow. They can get the sanctions lifted any time they want by carrying out the promises made by General Jaruzelski when he imposed martial law. If they are unable or unwilling to do this it is their fault, not ours, and they will have to face the consequences.

Western interests are clear. They are to help the Polish people, western bankers and East-West relations by nudging the Polish system towards reforms which will restore prosperity to Poland, increase its ability to repay its debts, and provide the basis for normal and open relations with the West. This inevitably involves respect for human rights because the system will not operate effectively without a degree of consent from the people. The argument that a military regime can pull the economy together better than a more democratic regime is suspect. Production has dropped since December, except in the mining industries.

The West therefore has no political or economic interest in making life easier for a neo-Stalinist regime. The blunt message should be that if the Russians insist on having such a regime in Warsaw they should pay the full price for it, which means taking over the full burden of Poland's economy and paying its debts. If they do not like this, and want the West to share the burden, then they must listen to western conditions. This is not "unwarranted interference" but basic banking.

To make the western message convincing the first step is to move faster and more effectively with the sanctions agreed in Brussels. This will be difficult. The western system is based on free enterprise and free competition, so it cannot easily harness commerce to politics. There is also a natural reluctance to lose good contracts and the jobs that go with them. Nevertheless, if the West is to be taken seriously it must be prepared to make sacrifices, and there are certain things that governments can do, particularly with regard to credits.

If these moves have no effect the West should make a direct threat to declare Poland in default. Obviously, if carried out, this would create serious problems in the West. Some western banks would go bankrupt unless supported. The PSBR would be raised by the need to honour government guarantees. But the consequences for Poland would be worse because it would be reduced to trading in cash, and it cannot do without western trade. There would also be repercussions on the rest of eastern Europe. On balance, therefore, the bargaining power is with the West. It should be used.

To throw the entire Polish economic mess into the lap of the Russians would be logical, specific and very expensive for the Russians, but if they want an oppressive and inefficient regime in Poland they should take full economic as well as political responsibility.

SWORDS AND PLOUGH SHARES

Mr John Nott's announcement about increasing the reservists and providing adventure training for a few thousand unemployed youngsters is to be welcomed, as far as it goes; but it does not go very far. Last June he said that the Government was determined to give greater emphasis to the reserve forces, and this has now resulted in an increase of 16,000 men in the Territorial Army. No increase, however small, should be decried, but Mr Nott has failed to go to the heart of the question of reserve military power, and he should try again.

Britain's strategic defence policy is based on the principle of nuclear deterrence. However, since the abolition of conscription, all Governments have found it convenient to hide behind that policy as being the only defence policy we need, on the ground that the only danger we face is of a total breakdown of deterrence rather than a partial one. Hence we only need a nuclear bomb, with a small number of volunteer armed forces, backed up by even fewer reservists.

This goes against the whole principle of reserve power, which should be based on the view that — in peacetime, or relative peacetime such as we have — one's standing force should only be allowed to contract if the reserve forces correspondingly expand. In that way the nation preserves machinery for military expansion to meet a whole range of future emergencies, not just the too-narrowly defined contingency of a breakdown in nuclear deterrence. The bankruptcy of this policy was fully apparent only a few years ago when the strain of law enforcement in Northern Ireland virtually incapacitated the army for any other purpose, in spite of its continuing pretence to meet Nato and global commitments.

Mr Nott's new reservists, therefore, will provide some temporary palliative to the regular army. But, if even Northern Ireland can incapacitate us, any future emergency will reveal much more starkly how gravely the Chiefs of Staff have neglected their duty to provide Britain with appropriate machinery for expansion of the services to meet unexpected emergencies.

The proposal for adventure training is also an attractive one, but incomplete. Mr Nott said that the very low numbers leaving the armed services, and the consequential reduction in recruitment, had produced some spare capacity in the training establishments of all three services. That training capacity should not be frittered away providing canoe trips and such like. It is the seed corn of the country's future military potential. But it is more than this, since military trade training improves the quality of those who pass through the machine in a social as well as a military sense. Social and military qualities are not necessarily incompatible. There is more to military training now than learning to kill. There is more to it even than gunnery, tactics or fieldcraft. It is noticeable that four out of every five recruits enlist because they wish to learn a trade which would be valuable to them later as civilians.

The national value of this training machine is thus not only that it trains servicemen with technical skills. Most of those skills are as relevant to industry, as they are to the military. There is much exchange of information and experience between service training establishments and their counterparts in industry, particularly in junior management and trade training. Wnen the economy picks up we will again need more skilled manpower than exists. We should harness the military training machine to this future industrial and economic requirement, by using its spare capacity now to turn out young men and women trained in modern techniques. In peacetime there is always pressure to turn swords into ploughshares. But we should not forget the service training machine's ability to turn out swordsmen who are ploughmen too; and the better for it.

THE CANDID FRIEND

President François Mitterrand is to be congratulated on his visit to Israel. He has shown that, even in the Middle East, courage and honesty are not necessarily incompatible with a certain diplomatic finesse.

It would have been much easier for him to avoid going there. No European head of state has ever done so before (unless we count Pope Paul VI in 1964). The unanimous advice of the French foreign ministry must surely have been against it, in view of the danger that it would severely damage France's standing in the Arab world, which is worth hundreds of millions of dollars in commercial contracts. Events since his election, which twice caused him to postpone the visit — the Israeli raid on the Iraqi nuclear reactor, in which a French technician was killed, and then the annexation of the Golan Heights — could easily have been taken as a pretext to cancel it altogether.

M Mitterrand chose to disregard those arguments, for reasons which are surely honourable. He has always been regarded, and evidently regards himself, as a "friend of Israel" — hardly a personal friend of her present prime minister, but a friend of the Jewish people and a strong believer in their right to an independent existence in their own state, the state of Israel. The role of a friend, when he disagrees with you or believes you are behaving badly, is not to turn his back on you. It is to seek you out and tell you honestly what he thinks. This is something the Arabs can understand, for it is an Arab proverb which says: "Your friend is he who tells you the truth, not he who keeps telling you you're right."

Personal ethics, it may be said, are not necessarily the best basis for international relations. But they are not the worst either. Whatever is the correct route to a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israel conflict, it surely must lie through an improvement of communications on all sides rather than through cutting them off. The Arabs have a case for regarding as an enemy someone who gives practical help, especially in a military form, to a state which is refusing to relinquish occupied Arab territory. They should not so regard anyone who seeks simply to maintain channels of communication with that state, including communication at the highest political level.

By speaking frankly to the Israelis, and in particular by voicing his opinion that the Palestinians — like the Israelis themselves — are entitled to their own state, M Mitterrand has surely earned the gratitude of all those Arabs who genuinely seek a peaceful solution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. By stating at the same time that the Palestinians must, in order to participate in a peaceful settlement, be willing to recognize the Jewish state and to renounce the use of force against it, M Mitterrand says no more than he and other European leaders have repeatedly told the Arabs to their faces. In fact, he is stating the obvious. But he is certainly right to make sure that he is clearly seen to be saying the same to both sides — something his foreign minister, M Cheysson, has not always been sufficiently careful about.

Finally, M Mitterrand is right, in principle, to say that the task of finding a solution to the conflict is one for the peoples of the region rather than for outsiders. But since, as he also said, "any regional crisis that lasts a long time attracts like moths the world powers who seek any occasion to try out their strength", it would be naive to suppose that the peoples of the region are acting with total autonomy. The great powers who supply them with weapons and economic aid cannot escape a degree of responsibility for their policies.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Case for Belvoir coalfield

From Mr Madron Seligman, MEP for West Sussex (Conservative) and others

Sir, The letter from Mr Joe Gormley (February 17) answers Mr Ronald Butt's article about the proposed development of north-east Leicestershire coalfield with a strong argument in favour of the need to exploit the UK's natural resources. However, the case for proceeding with this project is even wider than that.

The European Commission supported the development of this coalfield at the public enquiry, arguing that the European Community "must maintain a substantial and economically viable coal industry to avoid still greater dependence on imported energy". A healthy coal mining industry as the Government has often said, plays a vital part in Community security as well as economic strategy.

At present the demand for coal is artificially low, due to worldwide recession. Consequently stocks are building up and people are questioning the need for additional mining capacity. This can only be a short term view.

By the year 2000 it is calculated that European coal consumption will rise from the present 314 million tons to over 500 million tons a year, as supplies of alternative fuels, oil and gas, decline.

Great Britain's coal industry will have a key role to play in this situation, by investing in new capacity. Even so, it is estimated that Europe will still be dependent on imports of coal in the year 2000, amounting to some 240 million tons, against the present 74 million tons.

Furthermore, unless new mines are opened, skilled mineworkers will have no jobs to go to when their present mines are exhausted, and the Community can ill afford to lose such men, who are, by family tradition, prepared to work thousands of feet underground.

The environmental impact of deep mines on "green field" sites can be greatly reduced if precautions are taken from the beginning. While the first coal from the new north-east Leicestershire coalfield will probably not emerge before the early 1990s we must be sure that any effect on the local environment is reduced to the absolute minimum.

Yours faithfully,
MADRON SELIGMAN,
J. SCOTT-HOPKINS,
FRED CATHERWOOD,
ROBERT MORELAND,
European Democratic Group,
32 Smith Square, SW1.
March 3.

Practical benefits of national service

From Lieutenant General Sir John Cowley

Sir, Your leading article of February 27 on the subject of the abolition of national service in this country 25 years ago contains the sentence "a security cossetted by the self satisfaction of the armed forces at being once again left alone with their professionalism. The social consequences of the abolition seem also to have been ignored."

I recollect clearly a meeting held in London shortly before the final decision to abolish national service was taken. I was instructed to attend this meeting to represent the War Office view, as the Army was the service to be most affected by this decision.

A number of speakers who were professors of education, sociology and other related subjects spoke first. The main theme of their speeches was that national service was damaging to the youth of this country and, if it were abolished, school leavers would go straight to further education, or to jobs in industry or the professions without wasting eighteen months or two years of their formative life in the armed services. Your paper indeed wrote a leading article headed "Wasting time", a quote from my short speech saying that all young people maintain that doing something they do not want to do is "wasting time".

The only speech in favour of retaining national service was made by the War Office representative. I said that it had turned the regular services into training organizations for young men, and from a professional point of view this could not be considered the role for which the services had been formed, but there was no doubt that from the wider point of view it was beneficial to the youth of the country. It instilled a sense of comradeship and discipline during the early years of a young man's life, the old Etonian met the shop floor worker on equal terms, and both received the same treatment from the sergeant major. These same two might today be working together in the same company.

When their national service was over, each man was asked the question on a slip of paper "Do you consider you have benefited from your period of national service?" No signature was required. Over 90 per cent answered "Yes".

The psychologists and the sociologists won the day. National service was abolished and cannot now be restarted — but 25 years later to blame the "undermanned and overpaid armed forces", self satisfied "at being once again left alone with their professionalism" is hardly fair.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN COWLEY,
Whytemole, Sandy Down,
Lymington, Hampshire.

From Mr John Wyld

Sir, May I congratulate you on your excellent leading article on February 27. You put convincingly into words what, I suspect, most sensible people in this country have been thinking for some time. From a defence point of view a reserve of trained manpower is now more than ever necessary due to the reduction in the strength of the Armed Services. From the social aspect a period of compulsory service for one's country would be just what is needed at this time.

May I elaborate a little on what I believe is needed. It is that, on leaving school, for perhaps a year, every boy and girl should serve their country in some capacity. Some should go into the fighting services, some into all suitable forms of government service such as civil defence, the Health Service, council and community work, fire services, and so on. As far as is possible they should enter the form of service of their choice but that would not always be possible.

The important thing is that there should be no exceptions whatever so that nobody would feel "caught" compared to anyone else. Those not fully physically fit would of course be found jobs that were possible for them to carry out. Such a scheme would have the benefit of providing a job to go to on leaving school and, it is to be hoped, instil gradually a sense of national conscience and discipline.

The cost need not be great. Pay could, and should, be small. Uniforms need not in all cases be complicated and perhaps in some instances an armband would suffice.

It is far too important a national issue to become a party political football and it is hoped that the principle would have all-party support and be honoured by whatever party was in power.

The nomenclature of such service is a small but important point. "Conscription" would be a word to avoid. "National Service" is what it would in fact be but as the proposed scheme is far wider than the previous national service into the armed services only, it would seem politic to use a different name. Your article referred to "Youth Service" and perhaps that could be appropriate. One can almost hear the comment that the trade unions would never agree. This is a different issue but suffice it at this juncture to say that on this vital issue of service to the nation the unions should not be permitted to sabotage the scheme in any way.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WYLD,
Higher Ansty House,
Dorchester,
Dorset.
February 28.

Palumbo plan for Mansion House

From Sir John Summerson, FBA

Sir, Some ten years ago I saw the plans of Mr Peter Palumbo's Mansion House project (*The Times*, February 25) when they were exhibited at the Royal Exchange. They seemed to me then to represent a marvellously exciting architectural adventure which should, but obviously would not, be put in hand directly. Now these plans are again before us with long-term but wholly realistic proposals for their execution. They still seem to me to promise a beneficial and in many ways beautiful alteration of the City scene, but on every hand come warnings that they will not do.

A variety of reasons is given. 1. Mies van der Rohe is "old hat". 2. A number of "listed" buildings would be lost. 3. The monumental elevations exposed to the new square were not meant to be seen like that. 4. Open spaces contrived in built-up areas are draughty and squalid. 5. The new square is not "in character" with London. My experience of architectural change over 60 years leads me to feel *some* sympathy with *some* of these objections but when I come to add them up I find myself with a pathetic aggregate of disconnected and even contradictory half-truths at the root of which is a deep-seated fear that, in our time, any change in an urban environment is certain to be for the worse.

Now, if the Palumbo scheme is frustrated, what happens? The listed buildings in Poultry and Queen Victoria Street will be retained, skin deep, with new insides, offering to the public a moderately interesting museum of mid-Victorian architecture. This is all right, but at what a cost! The opportunity will have been lost of creating, in what has become a high-rise City, what I would like to call a "forum of release" from the tensions which gather so greedily around the Mansion House, the Royal Exchange and the Bank.

The new square would not, of course, be a "London square" in the traditional sense or anything like. It would be unique and peculiar, its success unpredictable (is success ever predictable in a town-planning enterprise?). But I believe there is more to be said for it, and by people with more town-planning expertise than I possess, than has, so far, been said against it.

Yours etc.,
JOHN SUMMERSON,
1 Eton Villas, NW3.
February 28.

Troubled Poland

From Mr D. P. McLaughlin

Sir, Two cheers for your near-generous leading article, "Portrait of a party man" (February 24). Your reasoned assessment of the political difficulties faced by the Polish Deputy Premier, Mr Rakowski, offers some redress for the offence occasioned by the shrewish and ill-mannered interview by Ms Fallaci which you published on the Monday and Tuesday.

The travail of Poland is too tragic a matter for the Poles, the Soviet Russian sphere of influence, and the world, to be trivialized by the personality-clashing prose of irate journalists.

More power to the elbows of campaigning commentators, but the apparently wilful failure of Ms Fallaci to honour the patent integrity of this troubled politician angered and saddened me. The fact that I am consoled by your leading article does not help me to understand why you bought the Fallaci piece in the first place.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID P. McLAUGHLIN,
8 Northolme Road, Islington, N5.

From Mr Norman Gear

Sir, May I protest against the appalling distortion of Marxist philosophy which appears in the leader column of your paper today (February 24). You write, in connexion with the Polish Deputy Premier, "he speaks as a true Marxist when he utters the chilling remark that 'in politics the indvidual does not count'".

Anyone who has read Marx will know that throughout his life he stressed the right, and the need, of the individual to fulfil his unique nature within a just society. It was Marx's argument that it was the capitalist system which denied, frustrated and perverted human nature. Looking around Western Europe today, with its ever more tasteless commercialism and its millions of unemployed, who can deny that he was right?

Yours sincerely,
NORMAN GEAR,
55 Caerleon Road,
Dinas Powis,
South Glamorgan.

Page of honour

From Mr William Shawcross

Sir, If as your diarist alleges, (February 26), the enemies of Bruce Page, till now the editor of the *New Statesman*, consider him "the Pol Pot of British journalism", then no one would want such people as friends. Far from being a force of evil and wanton destruction, Bruce Page is a brilliantly creative and original journalist who has immeasurably enriched British reporting. He was the driving force behind many of the most important investigations published over the last fifteen years. The list of young journalists whom he has generally encouraged is longer still. I hope he's in the business a long time yet.

Yours etc.,
WILLIAM SHAWCROSS,
17 Parkhill Road, NW3.

Human rights

From the Archbishop of the Indian Ocean

Sir, The foreign policy of the British Government with regard to human rights is now so ambivalent as to have lost all moral content. On the one hand it supports massive sanctions against both the USSR and Poland and demands an end to martial law and the release of Mr Lech Walesa and all other detainees.

On the other it is totally opposed to effective sanctions against South Africa, whose government has for generations denied basic human rights to the majority of its own citizens, is in illegal occupation of Namibia and has, in recent months, greatly increased its aggression against virtually all its African neighbours.

On February 5 this year yet another detainee, Dr Neil Aggett, after being held "incomunicado" and in solitary confinement by the Security Police for eight weeks, was found dead in his cell.

The British Government has refused to make any public protest about his death, yet never ceases to protest about the house arrest of Mr Lech Walesa. Both Dr Aggett and Mr Walesa were involved, as trade unionists, in opposition to their governments.

Perhaps Lord Carrington would explain the *moral* justification for the difference in official attitudes between the two cases; more particularly in terms of the Helsinki Decalaration and the UN Charter. The *political* justification is, alas, not so difficult to determine.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,
†TREVOR HUDDLESTON, CR,
Bishops House,
Phoenix,
Mauritius.
February 25.

Arts Council chairman

From Mr Peter Plouviez

Sir, The appointment of Sir William Rees-Mogg as chairman of the Arts Council is disturbing in that it has been said that he will remain vice-chairman of the BBC while carrying out his new responsibilities.

We believe that both the BBC and the Arts Council of Great Britain are bodies of immense importance to the artistic and cultural life of Britain, but that it is desirable for them to remain completely independent of each other in order to fulfil their complementary but quite distinctive functions.

Although Sir William may be admirably qualified for either of the positions in question, we do not believe that he or anyone else should hold both simultaneously.

Yours faithfully,
PETER PLOUVIEZ,
General Secretary,
British Actors Equity Association,
8 Harley Street, W1.

EEC and El Salvador

From Mr Evan Luard

Sir, Over recent years the EEC has been seeking, through "political co-operation", to adopt common policies on certain major international issues. Should not the next effort of this kind be an attempt by the EEC to persuade the United States of the need for a negotiated settlement in El Salvador?

United States advisers are themselves now warning, it is reported, that it is unlikely that the government forces in that country will be able to achieve a decisive victory. Yet by providing unconditional assistance and support to a government which is palpably unable to control the murderous elements acting in its name, the United States is identifying itself with political forces that are increasingly reviled by a large proportion of the population of El Salvador and alienating a substantial section of opinion in Latin America generally. It is under increasing criticism from its allies in Western Europe and elsewhere. And it is now, it seems, even losing the support of the United States electorate itself.

Most people would accept that the long term aim in El Salvador must be to establish there a government which is acceptable to the majority of its people. No reasonable person can believe that the election now planned, taking place in conditions of violent civil conflict, with substantial parts of the country not under the control of the government and others disturbed by continual fighting, can provide any indication of what sort of government the people of El Salvador desire.

Negotiations could be the means of establishing a coalition government, representing different political forces in the country, which could then prepare the way for elections on mutually agreed terms. Such elections, since they could take place in peaceful conditions, are more likely to bring about a government most people in El Salvador could support than those that are now to take place.

Is this not the course which the EEC should now be urging on the United States administration?

EVAN LUARD,
35 Observatory Street,
Oxford.

Women's equality

From Mr George Mandel

Sir, I wish Jill Tweedie's letter about women in the SDP (February 23) had contained less abuse and more of the thoughtfulness she claims to favour.

One question that thoughtful members of the SDP might like to consider, especially if they have not made up their minds how to vote in the forthcoming ballot on the proposal at issue (that half the places on the party's National Council should be reserved for women), is what will happen if the proposal is adopted and subsequently regretted. Getting it rescinded will not be at all easy. Altering a provision of the constitution will require a two-thirds majority on the council; but what council elected under such a system is ever likely to contain such a majority?

To elect a council that is abolitionist on this issue would require far more than a two-thirds majority among SDP members as a whole — something that is unlikely to be the case with any other provision of the constitution. This built-in self-perpetuation of the proposed rule ought to be more widely understood, because it shows up the rule's fundamentally undemocratic nature so clearly.

Youure faithfully,
GEORGE MANDEL,
The Old Stores,
Combe,
Oxford.
February 28.

Oxford today

From Mr K. M. Spence

Sir, In seeking to refute a prejudice that would discourage young people from Oxford entry, because it "would simply preserve a rotten system", Mr Harry Judge, Tutor for Admissions at Brasenose ("The new Oxford snobbery", February 24) hurries by a significant change in the selection method, which has implications on the product.

In 1949 my entry to Brasenose included an interview by a number of college fellows acting together in the common weal. Twenty years later my son was questioned by only one subject tutor at the same place, who seemed concerned by specialist points alone.

A mixed group of different opinions suggests a balanced, catholic result for the "whole man". Solo judgment may favour only those who would ultimately reflect credit on the specialist tutor. Which is the best method and potential product for the individual, college and university?

I was accepted. My son was rejected. He subsequently gained a first at the LSE and led several extra-curricular activities. Ironic, isn't it? There is something of Spenlow and Jorkins about Mr Judge's choice of ground.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH M. SPENCE,
60 Ellerby Street,
Fulham, SW6.
February 25.

Seats of punishment

From Professor C. P. Fitzgerald

Sir, In the article of March 3 "Few will escape seat belt laws" the article concludes with the dread admonition that "the driver will be responsible for ensuring that children under 14 are belted if in a front seat." With, or without, their parents' consent?

Yours faithfully,
C. P. FITZGERALD,
Savile Club,
69 Brook Street, W1.
March 3.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
The Queen visited the Annual Stallion Show of the National Light Horse Breeding Society at Newmarket today and was received upon arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Suffolk (Sir Joshua Rowley, Bt) and the President of the Society (Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Miller).

Her Majesty later honoured the President of the Society with her presence at luncheon in Tattersalls Rooms.

The Hon Mary Morrison, Mr Robert Fellowes and Squadron Leader Adam Wise were in attendance.

The Prince and Princess of Wales were present this evening at a Gala Evening in aid of the Order of St John and The Prince's Trust at the Barbican Centre for Arts and Conferences.

Major John Winter and Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips continued her visit to Northern Ireland today.

Her Royal Highness, attended by Miss Victoria Legge-Bourke, later returned in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight to Royal Air Force Lyneham.

By command of The Queen, the Earl of Avon (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this morning upon the arrival of the Governor-General of Antigua and Barbuda and Lady Jacobs, and welcomed their Excellencies on behalf of Her Majesty.

The Duke of Edinburgh, president of the Central Council of Physical Recreation, will attend the council's annual meeting at Fishmongers' Hall on March 23.

The Duke of Edinburgh, president of World Wildlife Fund International, will preside at an executive committee meeting of the fund in Gland, Switzerland, on March 24.

The Duke of Edinburgh, patron and Twelfth Man of the Lord's Taverners, will present the County Championship Trophy at Buckingham Palace on March 25.

The Duke of Edinburgh, chairman of the Royal Society of Arts Committee for the Environment, will chair a meeting of the committee at Buckingham Palace on March 25.

The Prince of Wales will open the new premises of Quaker Oats at Southall and visit the National Association of Asian Youth in Southall, on April 29. Later he will visit the National Centre for Industrial Language Training in Southall.

Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, will open the Burlington House Fair at the Royal Academy of Arts on March 11.

The President of Zimbabwe is 46 today.

A memorial service for Dr I. B. Horner will be held at Newnham College, Cambridge today at 3.15.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Robert Metherell Willis will be held in the Parish Church of St Mary with St Nicholas, Warwick, on Sunday, March 14, at 3.00 pm.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. J. White and Miss T. M. Hugo
The engagement is announced between Anthony, son of Major and Mrs Jeremy White, of Leckhampstead House, Buckingham, and Tessa, younger daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Hugo, KCVO, OBE, and Lady Hugo, of Nizels, Kent.

Mr N. R. Hunter Jones and Miss E. H. M. Leapman
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, youngest son of Colonel and Mrs H. E. Hunter Jones of Church Farm, Langham, Essex, and Emma, second daughter of Mr and the Hon Mrs J. F. M. Leapman, of La Hougue Grange Grouville, Jersey.

Mr C. J. Barber and Miss J. M. Rickards
The engagement is announced between Christopher John, son of Mr and Mrs A. C. Barber, of Macclesfield, Cheshire, and Julia Madeleine, youngest daughter of Dr and Mrs J. F. Rickards, of Bwlch, Abersoch, Gwynedd.

Mr G. I. A. Chapman and Miss S. J. Field
The engagement is announced between Geoffrey, eldest son of Mr and Mrs G. R. Chapman, of Murray Road, Wimbledon, and Shirley, only daughter of Mr and Mrs H. D. Field, of Redhill, Surrey.

Mr J. C. Colvile and Miss M. A. Banks-Martin
The engagement is announced between Jonathan Charles, son of Mr & Mrs Geoffrey Colvile, of Ivy House Farm, East Malling, Kent, and Mary Ann, younger daughter of the late Mr J. H. Banks-Martin and of Mrs M. J. Banks-Martin, of Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire.

Mr R. Gillis and Miss A. Burland
The engagement is announced between Richard, elder somn of Mr and Mrs Harold Gillis, of Sandy Lodge, Carnoustie, and Anna, daughter of Mr David Burland and the late Mrs David Burland, of 1 Denewood Avenue, Birmingham 20.

Mr P. Hamilton and Miss J. Oddy
The engagement is announced between Philip, younger son of Mr and Mrs Peter Hamilton, of Felpham, Sussex, and Julie, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Noel Oddy, of London, SW1.

Mr J. E. D. Hughes and Miss K. J. Peek
The engagement is announced between James Edward David, younger son of Mr T. G. E. Hughes, of Downderry, and Mrs M. M. Hughes, of Plymouth, and Katherine Julia, youngest daughter of Captain and Mrs W. G. Peek, of Hazelwood, Loddiswell, Devon.

Mr T. A. Mitchison and Ms D. S. Kahn
The engagement is announced between Terence, son of Professor and Mrs D. A. Mitchison, of Richmond, Surrey, and Diana, daughter of Mr and Mrs H. V. Kahn, of Kinnerton Street, SW1.

Mr D. A. Lynas and Miss U. Lightfoot
The engagement is announced between David Anthony, younger son of the late Mr C. Lynas and Mrs S. Lynas, of Claygate, Surrey, formerly of Salisbury, Zimbabwe, and Ursula, younger daughter of the late Mr E. H. Lightfoot and Mrs U. E. A. Lightfoot, of Withington, Manchester.

Mr G. J. Palmer and Miss S. E. Holt
The engagement is announced between Graham, younger son of the late Mr J. A. Palmer and of Mrs J. E. Palmer, of Orford, Kent, and Sharon, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. G. H. Holt, of Kemsing, Kent.

Mr S. D. W. Payne and Dr A. L. Wight
The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Dr and Mrs E. E. Payne, Cardiff, and Ailsa, daughter of Mr and Mrs W. J. Wight, Portling, Kirkcudbrightshire.

Mr C. J. H. Roberts and Miss C. M. Tanner
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Squadron Leader and Mrs E. H. Roberts, of North Warnborough, Hampshire, and Catherine, second daughter of Mr C. R. Tanner, of Guildford, Surrey, and of the late Mrs Jenny Tanner, sometime residents of Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Mr J. G. Clunies-Ross and Miss A. V. Vickers
The engagement is announced and the marriage will take place in the autumn between John George, elder son of Mr and Mrs John Clunies-Ross, of Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Indian Ocean, and Alison Victoria, daughter of Mr and Mrs Leo Vickers, of Chichester, West Sussex.

Mr C. J. Teuma and Miss J. E. Spittle
The engagement is announced between Charles, eldest son of Mr and Mrs H. P. Teuma, of Wimbledon, and Julie, youngest daughter of the late Mr A. E. Spittle and Mrs Spittle, of Briton Ferry, West Glamorgan.

Mr C. L. Williams and Miss C. Williams
The engagement is announced between Christopher Lawrence Williams, of Edgbaston, Birmingham, and Christine Williams, of Dolybont, Borth, Dyfed.

Mr P. L. Wilson and Miss K. G. E. Hayes
The engagement is announced between Laurence, younger son of the Rev C. G. and Mrs Wilson, of Crewe, Cheshire, and Katherine, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs K. I. Hayes, of Auckland, New Zealand.

Marriage

Major P. V. L. Verney and Mrs C. G. J. O. de la Hey
The marriage took place in London on March 4 between Major Peter Verney and Mrs Christopher de la Hey.



A posy of flowers for Princess Anne yesterday when she visited an agricultural research institute in Ulster.

Bovine salute for Princess Anne in Ulster

From Richard Ford, Belfast

As if by royal command, a shed of Friesian cows rose to their feet as Princess Anne approached them during a brief visit to an agricultural research institute in Northern Ireland yesterday. However, as befits a farmer's wife the Princess was unperturbed as she discussed the research work being carried out with officials.

Her short visit to the institute, at Hillsborough, was the only occasion when the Princess left the castle nearby and was the one chance that a small number of the public had to see her during a two-day visit to the province.

She was driven under tight security in a bullet-proof car to the institute, where she visited the dairy and poultry units.

Earlier at Hillsborough Castle, Princess Anne had presented insignia to 18 people from Ulster honoured in the new year list. She had stayed overnight after dining with Mr James Prior, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

Later she attended a reception and lunch for members of The Save the Children Fund, of which she is president, before leaving by helicopter.

Security was tight around Hillsborough and the castle and its grounds were ringed by patrolling soldiers, RUC officers and members of the Special Branch.

The Princess last visited the province in 1977, when she spent five hours attending the spring meeting of The Save the Children Fund.

Luncheons

HM Government
Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host yesterday at a luncheon at Admiralty House, given in honour of Professor Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, Foreign Minister of Indonesia.

HM Government
Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host yesterday at a luncheon at Carlton Gardens, given in honour of the High Commissioner of Botswana.

Middlesex County Association
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Wwstminster were guests at a luncheon held by the Middlesex County Association at Ealing Catering College yesterday. Mr R. Politeyan, president, and Colonel W. D. Morris, chairman, accompanied by Mrs Politeyan and Mrs Morris, welcomed the guests. The Hon. Ewen Montagu, QC, was among the speakers.

Butchers' company
Mr Norman L. Hall, deputy master of the Butchers' Company, presided at a court luncheon held at Butchers' Hall yesterday. The Bishop of London was the guest of honour and speaker. The Rev Arthur W. S. Brown also spoke.

Dinners

Medical Society of London
Cardinal Hume was the principal guest at the annual dinner of the Medical Society of London held at the Royal College of Physicians last night. Dr Ewart M. Jepson, president, was in the chair.

Bentham Club
The presidential dinner of the Bentham Club took place at University College, London yesterday. The Lord Justice-General and Lord President of the Court of Session, Lord Emslie, president gave the presidential address on comparitive law and the law of Scotland. Among those present were:

The Provost of University College and Lady Lighthill, the Lord Advocate and Lady Mackay of Clashfern, Lord and Lady Keith of Kinkel, Lord and Lady Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Goodman, CH, Lord and Lady Lloyd of Hampstead, Lady Emslie, Sir Sebag Shaw, Sir Jack and Lady Jacob and Mr and Mrs Stephen Guest. The Bentham auto-icon was also present.

Arts Club
The Archbishop of Canterbury was the principal guest and speaker at a house dinner held at the Arts Club, 40 Dover Street on March 2. He was accompanied by the Rev Richard Chartres.

Service dinner

Northumbrian Universities Air Squadron
Squadron-Leader D. Wooldridge, Commanding Officer, and members of the squadron were hosts at the annual dinner of the Northumbrian Universities Air Squadron held at RAF Leeming last night. Air Marshall Sir Michael Beavis, AOC-in-C, HQ RAF Support Command, was the principal guest. Air Vice-Marshal R. C. F. Peirse, AOC and Commandent of RAF College Cranwell, anll Prof E. Sunderland, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Durham University, were also present.

Requiem Mass

Lady Waechter de Grimston
Requiem Mass for Lady Waechter de Grimston was celebrated at St Hilda's Priory, Whitby, on Wednesday, March 3. Father John Payne officiated, assisted by Father Harold Norton, Father John Cave and the Very Rev Allan Shaw. Canon Alum Morris gave an address. Among those present were:

Mrs J Bell, Mrs T Hellyer, Mrs B Hay, Sir Robert and Lady Hobart, Mr and Mrs Hobart-Hampden, Mr B Hellyer (cousins).

Lady Kenyon, Colonel and Mrs R Alec-Smith, Father Aquinas, Mr and Mrs R Berry, Mr D Botham, Mrs J Cave, Mrs J Chichester-Constable, Mrs S Crabtree, Mr D Forster, Mr K Harrison, Mr and Mrs N Hildyard, Mrs R Holtby, Mrs C Ireson, Mr E Ingram, Mr F Johnson, Miss J Kenyon, Mr and Mrs P Kenyon, Mr F Lupton, Mrs E MacKenzie, Miss B Magraw, Mr and Mrs O Marriott, Mr and Mrs D Maslin, Mrs A Morris, Mr J Preston, Mr A Readman, Miss I Stalker, the Rev P Stringer, Mr R Taylor, Mr J Tindall, Mr and Mrs A Todd, Mrs W de Wend Fenton, Dr A Wild, Mrs E Williams, Canon J Wrangham Hardy and Miss M Wrangham Hardy.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid):
Lord, Lady, of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, widow of Sir Frank Lord, intestate £163,673
Wigley, Mr George, of Chorlton cum Hardy, Manchester, company director £1,571,506

Birthdays today



Mr Barry Tuckwell, the horn soloist and conductor, who is 51.

Sir David Cairns, 80; the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, 55; Sir Frank Figgures, 72; Professor C. P. Fitzgerald, 80; Mr Rex Harrison, 74; Mr Anthony Hedges, 51; Archbishop Bruno Heim, 71; Lord Kilmany, 77; Major-General Sir Denzil Macarthur-Onslow, 78; Sir John Marshall, CH, 70; Dr Walter Marshall, 50; Sir Derek Mitchell, 60; Vice-Admiral Sir Peverill William-Powlett, 84; Mr Des Wilson, 41.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
The Duke of Edinburgh to be vice-president of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, the scientific branch of the World Wildlife Fund.
Sir Mark Heath, Minister to the Holy See, to be the first Ambassador to the Holy See.
Mr Derrik Mercer to be associate editor of ITN with responsibility for the mid-evening news and news analysis programme which ITN will be providing for Channel 4.
Mr David Cocks to be managing director of Suffolk Group Radio, the company formed to operate the new independent local radio station at Bury St Edmunds.

Legal

Mr Justice Leonard to be a presiding judge on the Wales and Chester circuit in place of Mr Justice Phillips from April 20.

Queen for Canada

The Queen is to visit Canada in the next few weeks for the ceremony marking the patriation of the country's constitution, Buckingham Palace said yesterday.

Record for Bakst watercolour

Leon Bakst, designer for Diaghilev, topped Sotheby's sale of Ballet and Theatre material yesterday when his exotic watercolour of "La Sultane Jaune" sold for a record £33,000. That almost doubled the previous record for the artist of £17,050, paid at Sotheby's last October.

The woman, in turban, slippers and little else, was painted in 1916 and inspired by Bakst's own oriental ballet, *Scheherazade*, which caused a scandal in its time. Another Bakst design for a "Negro Dancer" also made a record at £19,250, only to be broken minutes later by the Sultane. Yet another Bakst, his vivid costume design for "Judith", complete with severed head of Holofernes, from the opera of 1922, made £13,200, paid by a London dealer, and "Fantasy of Modern Fashion, Atlante" also by Bakst and signed and dated 1912, sold for £9,680 to an anonymous buyer. A design by Alexandra Exter for "Two Duelling figures", of about 1926, sold for £3,740 and Natalya Gontcharova's "Abstract Portrait of Diaghilev", went for £3,080

A Victoria Cross awarded on D-Day realized a world record at £32,000. The buyer was an anonymous English collector bidding by telephone against a London dealer. The Victoria Cross was awarded to Company Sergeant Major Stanley Hollis, of The Green Howards, and with his seven other medals, it was expected to fetch about £20,000.

"La Sultane Juane", sold for £33,000

Hollis was awarded the Victoria Cross for his part in the assault on the Normandy beaches, when he captured a pillbox single-handed and later in the day rescued two of his men trapped in a house by enemy gunfire. The sale of medals realized a total of £190,227.

□ After the Chinese Government declared stamp collecting legal in the late 1970s, interest has grown rapidly and a Stanley Gibbons auction of rare stamps held in Hongkong on March 3 and 4 realized just over £111,000 (our Philateli Correspondent writes).

More than 100 people attended, mostly Chinese, and at least double that figure made postal bids. The chief tem was a collection of Tibetan stamps and postal history, including an important reference section of forgeries, which fetched £6,111.

A rare block of 23 pairs of Hongkong 20 cent stamps of 1976 with the perforation missing sold for £2,777 and a sheet of 25 one cent Chinese first issue "Dragon" stamps of 1878-83 made £1,944.

Ignorance 'stands in way of jobs for disabled'

Ignorance and prejudice stand in the way of disabled people who want to work, according to the authors of a new guide for employers. They say there are a million disabled people able to work in Britain but a fifth are unemployed.

Dr Melvyn Kettle, a senior research fellow in rehabiliation studies at Aston University said that more than half of all registered disabled people have been out of work for more than a year.

"Most employers do not understand disability and tend to look at what disabled people cannot do rather than what they can achieve", said Mr Bert Massie, co-author of the guide, who has been disabled since childhood. He is executive assistant to the director of the Royal Association for Disability and Rehabililation. "The situation has become far worse since national unemployment has been rising", he added.

Information compiled by Dr Kettle and Mr Massie was used yesterday to launch a campaign to help employers to overcome fears about taking on disabled workers. It is supported by Lord Snowdon, the former England president of the International Year of Disabled people.

Writing in the foreword of the *Employers' Guide to Disabilities*, he said: "The guide should help to dispel many of the myths and false beliefs that have been partly responsible for disabled people being denied their rightful place in the nation's workforce".

The campaign was launched in London by Mr Graham Savin, personnel manager of corporate functions at Shell UK, who said: "I believe the guide will persuade and educate employers".

Planning in London criticized

By Hugh Clayton

Architects complained yesterday that planning procedures in some London boroughs were so entangled with politics that the social and environmental aspects of building proposals were often lost. An architect questioned in a survey of 100 London practices complained that "politicians try to use planning applications as means to secure votes". Another said that "the attitudes of the planning departments reflect the political attitudes of the boroughs".

The survey was conducted by *London Architect*, the journal of the London region of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and contains a wide variety of complaints about delays and obstructions in the planning departments of London boroughs.

The time taken to process planning applications varied from four weeks to almost 10 months; and many f the architects questioned were dissatisfied with the qualifications and availability of planning staff.

The journal quoted one architect as saying: "It is difficult to speak to senior officials; we get palmed off with some junior hack". Another protested about "too much interference by inexperienced assistants who have diplomas in geography and have never drawn a building in their lives".

The results of the survey reflect the frosty relations between professions as the recession and local government spending cuts reduce the numbers of commissions and jobs. Architects, planners and surveyors sometimes maintain that they are each best qualified to perform some of the work done by the others.

The London survey showed a desire for informal discussions about planning applications before the process began so that reasons for objecting could be spotted without going through the first laborious weeks of the formal process.

Gold medal for zoo designer

By Our Environment Correspondent

The Royal Gold Medal for Architecture is to be awarded this year to Mr Berthold Lubetkin (above), founder of the Tecton partnership and designer of several zoo developments in Britain. His most famous creation is probably the penquin pool at London Zoo.

Winners of the medal, which has been awarded each year since it was instituted by Queen Victoria in 1848, include Sir Edwin Lutyens, Frank Lloyd Wright and Le Corbusier.

The citation for this year's medal, published by the Royal Institute of British Architects, says that Mr Lubetkin "pioneered modern architecture in Britain" and "designed a sequence of buildings the beauty and brilliance of which has never been surpassed in this country".

Mr Lubetkin was born in 1901 in Tiflis, which is now in the Soviet Republic of Georgia. After studying in Berlin he arrived in Britain in 1931 and founded Tecton a year later. He became architect for Peterlee new town, Co Durham in 1947, but resigned in 1951 after disagreements with the government.

VIKING EXHIBITS ARRIVE

Mr Kenneth Pearson, chairman of The Vikings in England exhibition, took delivery of the first exhibits at the York Museum yesterday. The exhibition is being transported piece by piece from Denmark, where since last April it has been seen by nearly a quarter of a million people.

Among the main features are a full-scale replica of the cross-section of a Viking cargo boat, models of a Viking church and house and original manuscripts of King Canute. The other seven hundred items include sculptures, coins and weapons, many of which are treasures from York's own excavations.

The exhibition, which opens on April 3 and runs until September 30, will cost an estimated £250,000.

SAILING THROUGH EXAMS

Two Royal Navy officers with HMS Endurance in the Antarctic were yesterday awarded their Open University degress by a long-distance radio link-up from England.

Lieutenant-Commander Andrew Lockett and Lieutenant-Commander James Craig, both from Cornwall are serving with the Navy's ice patrol ship, which is on her last voyage before being paid off.

Commander Lockett, from Torpoint, has spent many of his sea hours studying for his BA degree, specialising in psychology, sociology and politics. Commander Craig from Gunnislake, whose research work in Antarctica he describes wryly as "penguin counting", has been awarded a science-based honours degree.

OBITUARY

CAPT. ALAN VILLIERS

Adventurous life in sailing ships

Captain Alan Villiers, D.S.C., past president of the Society for Nautical Research and a mariner of unique experience, died on March 3 at the age of 78.

He was an Australian and was born on Sept 23 1903. By the time he was sixteen he had made up his mind to go to sea — in sail. Much of his active life consisted of a series of adventures in the face of the elements. They were recorded in a stream of books — straight narrative, novels, stories for the young, reminiscences — many of them illustrated with photographs, of which Villiers built up over the years an extremely wide-ranging collection.

Villiers sailed because he wanted to. He wrote and lectured because he had a family to look after. But there was a still deeper need within him, which was to record, with all the detail possible, ways of life at sea which were fast vanishing. This passion to experience, to find out, and to record, was why he was so valued a member of the Society for Nautical Research. It had been founded by and for just such people as himself, and when, after serving on the council, he became the society's chairman, it seemed that man and position fitted perfectly.

The first adventure Villiers enjoyed was whaling in the Antarctic with the Norwegian Ross Sea Expedition 1923-1924. Then he had a spell of journalism in Hobart and later in London. By 1931 he was able to purchase a share in a four masted barque, the Parma. Three years later he acquired the Danish schoolship Georg Stage, which he renamed Joseph Conrad. Between 1934 and 1936 he sailed this ship some 58 thousand sea miles.

Just before the Second World War Villiers got to know at first hand the immemorial life of the Red Sea dhows engaged in the Persian Gulf and Zanzibar trade. When war came he joined the R.N.V.R. He had reached the rank of commander by 1944. He was on active service with Infantry Landing Craft in Italy, Normandy and the Far East, and he was awarded the D.S.C. for service in the invasion of France.

After the war was over Villiers became Master of the training ship Warspite. Later he sailed with the Portuguese cod-fishing fleet in the schooner Argus. In 1956 he volunteered to command the Mayflower replica, built in England, which he successfully sailed to the United States in the following year.

Villiers as a writer was clear and professional: as a lecturer he was *sui generis*. He had a remarkable, if eccentric, delivery, and never failed to grip his audience. No one who ever heard him will forget his gay description of the Mayflower episode, or the strip of film he sometimes showed which gave so lively an idea of a wind-jammer's motion in the region of Cape Horn that a viewer was apt to turn queasy as he looked.

Nor must his adventures in film be overlooked, particularly in *Moby Dick*, 1955, and Melville's other classic, *Billy Budd*. Of his many books, as varied in technique as in subject matter, his later reminiscences, *Give Me a Ship to Sail* (1958) contains some of his liveliest writing. Maritime historians also value particularly *Falmouth for Orders* (1928), the story of the last clipper ship race round Cape Horn. He published a life of Captain Cook in 1967.

Among other bodies on which Villiers served were the trustees of the National Maritime Museum; the Cutty Sark Preservation Society, and the Victory Technical Advisory Committee.

PROFESSOR S TAKAHASHI

Mr Toshio Kusamitsu writes:—

'Professor Seiichiro Takahashi died on February 9 in the Keio Hospital after three years of ill health. He was 97. Professor Takahashi graduated from Keio Gijuku University where he studied economics under Yukichi Fukuzawa, the founder of the university, and took up a teaching post in economics in the same university. He pioneered the study of economics and the history of European economic thought undertaking the study of economics, he broadened his interest to arts and became highly respected for his wide knowledge and his liberal mind. When Mr Shigeru Yoshida formed his Government in 1947, Takahashi was trusted with the creation of a new educational system in the post-war Japan, and was appointed Minister of Education in Yoshida's cabinet, though he was not a member of the Diet.

When he was in his office, he made a strenuous effort to lay the foundations of future education by proposing several education acts.

After retiring as Minister of Education, he held such important offices as president of Japan Academy of Arts (1948-79), director of the National Museum of Tokyo, chairman of the Cultural Assets Conservation Committee, director of the National Theatre, chairman of the Film Censorship Committee, and many others. His collection of *ukiyoe* (Japanese woodcuts) is one of the best in the world, and he published many studies on the subject. He was also an excellent essayist who could write with fluency and deep knowledge on his chosen subjects, from Kabuki theatre to Shakespeare.

He was an earnest and most sincere teacher. The writer was fortunate to be able to attend his lecture and seminars when he was approaching 90 years of age, and the memory of his noble figure and of his clear and still amazingly young voice, when he lectured on the economic theory of philosophers in the Roman Empire, is still vividly remembered. Professor Takahashi received in 1979 the highest honour for scholarship, the Order of Cultural Merit. He remained a bachelor throughout his life.

SIR MARTIN FLETT

Sir Kenneth Hutchison writes:

I should like to add a paragraph to the obituary of Sir Martin Flett; it relates to the period 1956-61, when he was Deputy Secretary at the Ministry of Power. He brought to that task a capacity for clear thinking and firm action when action was called for, and blew away the great mass of cobwebs which surrounded the problem of what coal should be used for, by setting up the Committee on Coal Derivatives (the Wilson Committee) on which I served.

The report of the committee convinced most impartial readers that there was no place for coal in gas making at least in the foreseeable future and confirmed the gas industry in its determination to transfer to oil. He then succeeded where others might well have failed, in winning over Lord Mills, the Paymaster-General and Overlord of Energy, to authorize the Gas Council's Liquid Methane Project, and before long the first triumphant voyage of the Methane Pioneer passed into history.

The gas industry of today owes much to Martin's personal interest in its affairs during his term of office at the Ministry of Power; added to which he was a very good friend to many, and a valued adviser.

University news

Cambridge
Colleges' research fellowships competition 1981-82, group A.
CHRIST'S COLLEGE, D E Logan, MA., Trinity College, A N Palmer, MA., Wolfson College, Oxford.
CHURCHILL COLLEGE, J A Second, PhD (Princeton), University College, London (history of sciences), M J Simon, BA., Queens' College and the Manchester University (applied mathematics).
GONVILLE AND CAIUS COLLEGE, M Moriarty, BA., St John's College (French), J N Nicholls, BSc (Bristol), St Catharine's College (organic chemistry), M C Astle, BA., Girton College (plant biochemistry).
JESUS COLLEGE, P D Gleenie, BA., Gonville and Caius College (geography), D M Whittle, BA., Magdelen College, Oxford and Corpus Christi College (astronomy).
TRINITY HALL, S E Cumberbatch, BA., Churchill College and Trinity Hall (political theory), L Queen, PhD., Trinity College and Birmingham University (pure mathematics).

Liverpool
Appointments:
Senior lecturers: R Tallis, BA, BM, BCh (Oxon), geriatric medicine; A P Owens, BA, MB, BCh, BAO (Trin C, Dublin), radio diagnosis.
Lecturers: A P Bond, MB, BCh (Wales), obstetrics and gynaecology; M A Shalwell, MB, ChB, orthopaedic and accident surgery.

Reading
The following honorary degrees will be awarded on May 15:
DLitt: Sir John Arnold, President of the Family Division of the High Court; Professor R. Quirk, Vice-Chancellor, London University.
DSc: Professor of Statistics, Imperial Collegee, London, and President of the Royal Statistical Society; Mr R Halstead, Chairman of Beecham Products; Dr A Wiin-Nielsen, Secretary-General, World Meteorological Association.

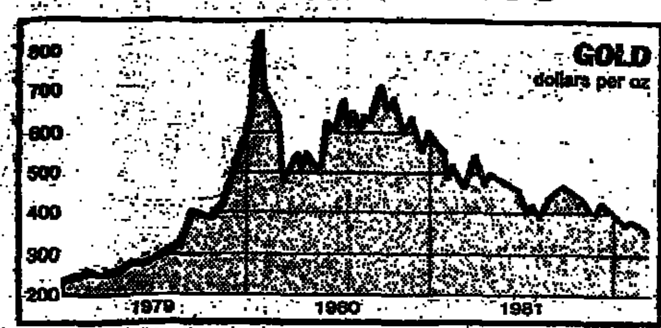
Sussex
Grants:
Science and Engineering Research Council: £58,560 over three years to Professor R L Grimsdale and Dr F Halsall for research into decentralized resource management in a tightly-coupled multiprocessor computer system; £72,000 over three years to Dr H W Kroto for high resolution infra-red studies of unstable and reactive species. £86,250 over three years to Professor M F Lappert for synthetic and structural mechanistic studies in organometallic and inorganic chemistry; £98,000 over two years to Professor F McCapra and Professor M F Lappert for research into mass spectrometry using desorption chemical ionization fast atom bombardment and electron impart sources.

Lancaster
Grant
Science and Engineering Research Council: £59,961 to environmental studies for studies of the disturbed D region at high latitude using EISCAT in conjunction with riometer networks.

City
Dr G M Dickinson, senior Lecturer in the business school, has been assignated Lloyd's Research Fellow for three years from January 1. He will lead a research programme, funded by Lloyd's of London.

BUSINESS NEWS

Gold fall continues



The price of gold fell below $350 an ounce yesterday for the first time since September 1979, closing $8.25 down in London at $344.25. This represents a loss of $22.25 on the week, and compares with $400 an ounce fetched at the beginning of the year. Heavy persistent selling yesterday came with gloom over world recession and high interest rates, coupled with worries that more long-term holders of gold, notably in the Middle East, may try to sell.

SE supports dealers' rules

The Stock Exchange yesterday expressed support for the new rules controlling the activities of licensed dealers in securities.

However, it is not prepared to concede that stockbrokers should be bound by similar rules. One of *the main amendments to the rules for licensed dealers* proposed by the Department of Trade was that clients' money must by law be kept separate from company funds. The Stock Exchange insists that a similar requirement for stockbrokers in unnecessary.

Call to build warships

The Government has been urged to initiate a co-ordinated programme to boost *sales* of *British-built* warships to foreign navies. Ministers have also been asked to consider allowing British Shipbuilders to build warship hulls on a speculative basis to preserve skills and maintain employment. No orders have been taken in the past eight years. The all party Industry and Trade Select Committee, said yesterday that the Corporation felt the Government was not backing the corporation's warship marketing effort sufficiently.

Weather hits beer output

Beer production in January dropped 21.5 per cent, because of the bad weather, according to the Brewers' Society. December's weather hit sales leaving higher stocks than usual in the retail pipeline, with a consequent decline in January orders. Poor weather in early January compounded the effect. *The underlying* trend is of a 6 per cent fall with current retail sales of beer down by at least that amount.

● Development of a new North Sea oil field, the Balmoral discovery 120 miles north east of Aberdeen, moved *nearer yesterday with the* announcement of a successful well by the British National Oil Corporation on block 16/21b.

Mining profits

General Mining Union Corporation (Gencor), the leading Afrikaaner mining and industrial group, raised 1981 pretax profits 17 per cent from R406m to R476m (£267m). The final dividend is 120 cents, bringing shareholders' receipts to 175 cents, both up 20 cents. Turnover rose by 51 per cent to R3,281m. Net assets also rose markedly, from R1,481m to R1,857m.

● ICI is to spend £5m on extensions to its catalyst *manfacturing plant at Clitheroe, Lancs.*

● The Government has approved capital *spending* by the National Coal Board in the 1982-83 financial year of £886m, almost £80m more than last year.

Strike may cost railways Post Office contract

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Post Office is considering switching a larger proportion of letters and parcels to road and air *transport as a result of the* disruption to the postal service caused by the recent series of train drivers' strikes.

This new tough stance is being adopted by PO executives in negotiations that are now taking place with British Rail over *the* renewal of contracts — worth £49m last year to the rail network — for the distribution of mail.

Post Office negotiators, led by Mr Alan Clinton, the board member for mails network and development, are claiming that although they were deprived of the rail service for three days a week, the cost of turning to extra road and air facilities was about the same as that charged by BR.

The only major inconvenience suffered by the Post Office during the 17 days of strike action was in sorting the mail. Because of the lack of overnight mail trains — the PO's travelling sorting offices — letters had to be sent out from different centres causing dislocation in service.

As a result, only 70 per cent of first class mail was delivered the following day after posting compared with the figure of 90 per cent usually claimed by the Post Office. *In consequence, the* Post Office is claiming compensation from the railways of about £2m.

The Post Office has distributed the mail by train for more than 100 years and recognizes that there is no practicable alternative for most letters and parcels. During the rail strikes, it assured postal workers' unions that all mail diverted to other means of transport would return to the trains once the dispute was settled.

However, Mr Clinton and his team are attempting to extract the most *advantageous terms from BR* which is aware that the loss of just 2 per cent of the postal business could be worth £1m a year in revenue.

A PO spokesman said yesterday: "The Post Office owes it to its customers to *get the best possible deal.*"

British Rail has estimated that its revenue losses during the six-week drivers' dispute were more than £60m and *fears that up to £150m a year* of freight and passenger business could be lost permanently

Discussions on the contract renewal are taking place against a background of Post Office confidence that it will turn in a profit of £80m this year and dismay that it will be unable to meet its £220m investment plans next year because of continuing government-imposed financing constraints.

Howe Budget warning from Europe

Amid growing concern in the West over continuing economic recession and mounting unemployment the European Commission has given a clear warning to Britain not to adopt a restrictive Budget next week. And in Paris labour ministers from the leading industrial nations began two days of talks on tackling unemployment in their countries.

In a review of the EEC economy the Commission said that there should be no restrictive budget policy action in 1982 in any member state whose finances were *relatively sound.*

As Commission figures show that Britain ended 1981 with a current account balance of payments surplus equivalent to 2.2 per cent of gross domestic product and the second lowest net borrowing requirement in the EEC of only 2.5 per cent of gross domestic product, the Commission's advice would appear to be directed specifically at Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The Commission takes a guarded view of economic prospects in the Community.

It has revised downwards its economic growth forecast for 1982 to 1.6 per cent of real community from the 2 per cent level predicted last autumn although it believes that by the end of 1982 growth could reach a 2.5 per cent annual rate.

EEC unemployment which rose by 180,000 people a month last year is expected to rise to 9.1 per cent of the labour force in 1982 against 7.9 per cent in 1981.

Economic growth in Britain will stay below the EEC average this year with gdp rising by 1.1 per cent after last year's 1.4 per cent decline. United *Kingdom* unemployment will continue to rise to 11.8 per cent from the 10.5 per cent level for 1981.

The commission considers that the present phase of recovery in the European economy is fragile and that the cyclical trend could be aborted by a deterioration in world monetary conditions.

It said that one of the prerequisites of an effective *European Economic policy is* that countries with strong balance of payments positions do not pursue "so prudent financial policies" as to impede recovery *in those* countries with high deficits.

□ The Paris discussions, involving the 24 member states of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), start against a backdrop of sharp political differences as *exemplified by France and* the United States.

France is pursuing an expansionary course to bring down unemployment while the United States regards the defeat of inflation through a restrictive monetary policy.

According to latest comparable figures prepared by the OECD, for Europe and North America, Britain's unemployment rate now heads the list at 11.7 per cent, with the Netherlands at 11.2 per cent, Belgium 10.9 per cent, Italy 9.1 per cent, the Unites States 8.5 per cent, Canada 8.3 per cent and West Germany 8.2 per cent.

ACC group to study all offers

By Philip Robinson

The directors of Associated Communications Corporation yesterday set up a special four-man committee to consider all takeover bids for Lord Grade's former company. *But the committee* excluded Australian financier Mr Robert Holmes à Court, whose Bell Group has two *bids* in for ACC, one for £36m and another for £46m.

This would save Mr Holmes à Court from stepping aside as chairman of ACC should anyone consider that his bidding for a company where he is chairman and chief executive could present a conflict of interest.

The committee members, Lord Matthews, Sir Leo Pliatzky, Mr Ellis Birk and Mr Tony Lucas, were chosen *at an ACC board meeting* yesterday, the first since a Court of Appeal judgment put the assets-rich entertainments-to-property group up *for sale to the highest bidder.*

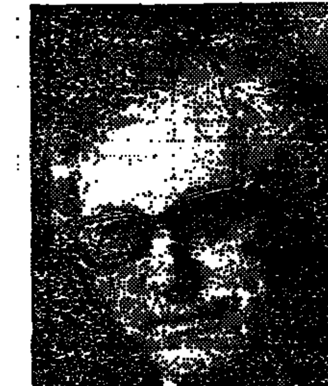
In the afternoon, directors met Mr Gerald Ronson, whose Heron Corporation brought the High Court action and who should despatch a formal offer document on Monday for a bid which values ACC at near £50m. The meeting, held seven weeks after it was first requested, was said to be constructive.

Meanwhile, negotiations on the sale of ACC's Cessna jet, the Airport Park Hotel in Los Angeles and the Classic cinemas chain are now almost concluded. But under the takeover code the group will need permission from either Mr Ronson, the full Takeover Panel or its own shareholders to sell the assets.

It is understood that Mr Ronson is offering no opposition to the sale of the jet or the hotel,




Mr Lawson: critical of industry's performance



Mr England: job vulnerable

CEGB chief defies Lawson criticism

By Johnathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

Mr Glyn England, chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board, made a thinly veiled attack yesterday on the Government's persistent criticism of the performance of nationa*lized industries. Speaking* to his research staff at Leatherhead he said: "There is a tendency, which I find regrettable, to use the public sector in general as a whipping boy for the nation's present economic difficulties".

"It is not surprising if there is a feeling among staff that however hard they work, however well they face challenging times, they can, in the eyes of some ministers, never get it right, simply because they work in a public enterprise".

Mr England's remarks are *unlikely to endear him to* the Government. They are made at a particularly sensitive time since no fewer than four of the five full-time board members of the CEGB, including Mr England himself, have contracts which run out during the next two months.

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Secretary of State for Energy, has given no indication so far *whether he intends to renew* any of the appointments. He has been very critical of the performance of the industry and there is speculation that he intends to use the opportunity to make radical changes in the board's key personnel. Mr England's £44,000-a-year job is thought to be particularly vulnerable.

The men whose appointments are at risk are Mr England, his deputy chairman Mr Fred Bonner, Mr Gil Blackman who is in charge of the CEGB's day-to-day operations, and Mr Dennis Lomer, the board member in *charge of the CEGB's* troubled power station construction programme.

Against this background Mr England's speech yesterday was being seen as one of barely concealed defiance.

BL loses £500m despite car boost

By Clifford Webb
Midlands Industrial Correspondent

Sir Michael Edwardes, the chairman of BL, is expected to reveal shortly that despite a £100m improvement from the former Austin *Moris* volume car operation, the state-controlled group lost £500m last year, compared with £535m in 1980.

In his fourth and last annual report, Sir Michael, who has said he will leave in the autumn, is expected to make *great play of the* turnround in the performance of the light medium car side which is believed to have reduced its loss from £250m in 1980 to £150m *last year.*

But this improvement has been largely offset by the collapse of the truck and bus markets served by Leyland *Vehicles. Losses of £47m in* the first half have continued and Leyland Vehicles will be lucky to hold them to £80m for the year as a whole.

There has been little change in Jaguar's 1980-loss of £20m. A big improvement in its vital American sales came in the last quarter of the year but it was too late to influence the year-end results. But it could lead to it breaking even this year and making a profit in 1983.

Unipart, the group's parts and accessories company, and Land Rover are left as the only profitable *operations.*

Plant closures and redundancies have been costly but with the cars' labour force reduced from the present *76,000* to 68,000 by the end of this year, BL should be on target for a 1982 loss on cars of between £70m and £80m.

Mr Geoffrey Armstrong, BL Cars employee relations director, has told union leaders that a labour force of 68,000 will be the "ideal fighting weight" with which to launch the new range of cars headed by LM 10 in spring 1983 and LM 11 in 1984.

□ BL is *taking advantage* of a government-subsidized scheme to recruit 14 graduate engineers for a three-year contract. BL will pay half of their *£8,000 a year salaries* and the remainder will be shared by the Science and Engineering Industry and Research Council (SERC) and the Department of Industry.

Banks could cut lending rates again

By John Whitmore

The City remained optimistic that the banks will make a further cut in their base lending rates next week barring any nasty reflationary surprises in Tuesday's Budget.

Period rates were again slightly easier where changed, partiicularly on bills and certificates of deposit. Indeed, the yield on three-month bills of just over 13 per cent, making bill finance appreciably cheaper than overdraft finance, suggests the banks *may see* scope for more than the usual half point drop in base rates

A certain amount may yet depend on dollar interest *rates. This week has* seen mixed movements in Eurodollar interest rates and several Wall Street houses have raised their broker loan rates.

However, the market is looking for a significant fallin the weekly United States money supply, to be released later today.

Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve, told the Senate appropriations committee that the United *States was turning the corner* on inflation and that interest rates had nowhere to go but down.

● The liquidity of companies deteriorated in the fourth quarter of last year, according to the latest Department of Industry survey.

MARKET SUMMARY

Gilts are Budget gamble

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 556.7 up 1.5
FT Gilts 67.89 up 0.47
FT All share 321.73 up 0.24
Bargins 23,830

Interest rates continue to *dominate market sentiment* yesterday as both gilts and equities advanced in active trade.

Government securities were the main feature, scoring rises of *up to £¾ in longs and £½ in* shorts as the market gambled on a further ½ per cent cut in interest rates ahead of next Tuesday's budget.

The bulls again gained the upper hand in equities, where the FT index closed 1.5 up at 556.7, having been 2.4 higher at midday.

Oils remained dull, still reflecting Wall Street's poor reception to the decision by BNOC to cut the price of North Sea oil by up to $4 a barrel. Shell Transport slipped 4p to 338p *as a line of* 200,000 shares came on offer, with Ultramar losing 15p to 370p as a seller at 175,000 failed to agree on the right price.

Fleet Holdings, the Trafalgar House offshoot, its debut closing at 23p, after 24½p, which valued the company at about £14m, with about 10 million of the total 60 million share changing hands. **Trafalgar House** ended ½p lower at 121p.

Video group **Intervision** has been suspended at 10p as the group prepares to make the change from rule 163 to the unlisted securities market. Meanwhile, half year figures show pretax profits of £437,000 on sales of £2.8m.

Plessey remained the darling of the electrical market, rising 5p to 370p after lunch earlier in the week with brokers Williams de Brae. But it was a different story for **Thorn EMI**, where a line of 200,000 shares were on offer following news of a disappointing lunch with brokers Straus Turnbull. The price slipped another 10p to 433p.

Grand Metropolitan shares put on 3p to 198p after bullish comments from Sir Maxwell Joseph.

"I said in my statement some years ago that we would reap the full benefits of our earlier *investments in the early 1980's*", he told shareholders at the group's AGM.

"My hopes in this direction have been more than justified and I *am now predicting further* progress for the company in future years."

There were also sellers of 300,000 **London Brick** unchanged at 78p, *250,000* **Courtaulds** up 3p at 84p, 75,000 **Standard Chartered** down 2p at 677p, 150,000 **Gill & Duffus** down 3p at 143p, and 100,000 ***Imperial Continental Gas*** *down* 5p at 183p.

Burmah's bid for **Croda** has lapsed after Burmah refused to raise its original offer of 70p. *Burmah's share with acceptances* amounted to only 18.38 per cent of the ordinary shares.

Equity turnover on March 3 was £157.63m (20,293 bargains).

Michael Clark

COMMODITIES

● Silver and platinum followed gold down. Silver spot bullion was fixed at 412.35p an ounce, a fall of 14.9p, and the lowest since 1979. Three months bullion was down by 15.55p to 426.1p an ounce.

● Platinum reached its lowest point since 1978, falling by $10 *to $326.50* an ounce. No recovery is expected in either silver or platinum until gold revives.

● Tin *slipped* again despite support by the International Tin Agreement buffer stock. Cash tin was £7,045 a tonne, £35 a tonne lower on the day, and three *months metal fell £20 to £7,275.* Tin for immediate delivery traded down to £6,990 in the morning. Purchases by consumers who have taken advantage of lower prices were less evident, and the broker identified with the buying group which dominated the market was a lender of forward metal.

OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones average 7,354.82 down 119.60.
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,140.58 down 56.11.

CURRENCIES

● The pound maintained its resilient performance despite lower oil prices and expectations of a fall in interest rates.

LONDON CLOSE

STERLING
$1.8280 up 50 points
Index 91.0 up 0.2
DM 4.3250
Fr.F 11.0450
DOLLAR
Index 113.0 down 0.1
DM 2.3655 down 55 pts
GOLD
$344.25 down $8.25

MONEY MARKETS

● Period rates were slightly easier where changed. The Bank, forecasting a shortage of £450m., bought £52m. of bills outright at unchanged rates and £392m. of bills for repurchase by the houses on March 17 and 31.

Domestic Rates:
Base rates 13½
3-month interbank $13^{11}/_{16}$ - $13^{9}/_{16}$
Euro-Currency Rates
3-month dollar $14^{7}/_{16}$ - $14^{11}/_{16}$
3-month DM $9^{13}/_{16}$ - $9^{11}/_{16}$
3-month Fr. F. $15^{9}/_{16}$ - 15⅝

TODAY

Housing starts and completions (January); house renovations (fourth quarter); hire purchase and other instalment credit *business* (January); company liquidity survey (fourth quarter).

Board meetings: interims; Courtney Pope Holdings, R P Martin, RVO Estates, Westminster and Country Properties. Finals: Alliance Trust, Ault and Wiborg, Romal Tea, Williamson Tea.

Joint UK satellite set up

By Bill Johnstone
Electronics Correspondent

A new British company is to be formed to exploit the world market for satellites. The company, called United Satellite Ltd, is being set up jointly by British Telecom, Marconi and British Aerospace.

The announcement by the three partners comes in the *wake of the* Government's approval for a £150m direct broadcast satellite system to be built by the British companies *and to be operational by 1986.*

The partners are expected to have an equal stake in the company, although the methods of financing the group have yet to *be determined.*

N. M. Rothschild, the merchant bank, is investigating the possibility of some form of leasing *being used to* fund the British direct broadcasting satellite.

The companies have already investigated potential markets and the technical and operational means to meet broadcasting and telecommunications requirements.

Navigation systems, include RACAL-DECCA, THORN-EMI
Communications, satellite and the earth stations — FERRANTI, MARCONI, PLESSEY & STC
Computer Software — FERRANTI, SOFTWARE SCIENCES AND LOGICA
Space vehicle — BRITISH AEROSPACE

The preliminary work has involved liaison with government departments and broad*casting, and telecommuni*cation organisations. The footprint for the British satellite would take in part of Western Europe for broad*casting signals if a sufficient*ly large antenna were used for reception.

One third of the British direct broadcasting satellite will be devoted to broadcasting and the remainder to telecommunications.

The BBC will be given two channels and British Telecom will control the third. British Telecom intends to release its international circuits on the satellite to other satellite organizations.

The complete system will consist of three satellites.

Industrial loans practices misunderstood

Banks refute Lever arguments

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

The big clearing banks have rounded on critics who claim that the cause of *Britain's economic* problems can be laid at the door of the banks because of their failure to meet industry's needs.

Much recent criticism of bank lending practices is based on out-of-date, misunderstood or simply wrong evidence, according to a paper produced by economists at the Committee of London Clearing Banks (CLCB) and endorsed by the big banks. In the paper, Bank Lending and Industrial Investment, they refute charges that the banks lend much less to industry than in other countries or *that* bank lending to industry is much shorter term in the United Kingdom.

The paper attacks many of the arguments and international comparisons put forward by Lord Lever former chancellor of the Duchy of *Lancaster, and Mr George* Edwards, an economist, in articles critical of British banking, and also seeks to undermine many of the premises on which the Grylls report on bank lending was *based.*

However the banks have been careful not to attack the main recommendation of the Grylls report — that companies should be allowed to pay interest on long-term loans for investment net of corporation tax. There has been speculation that measures of this kind might be mentioned in next weeks's Budget.

Although all the banks are sensitive to *charges that they* do not lend long enough to industry, there are thought to be differing views on the Grylls proposals. Privately some senior bankers at National Westminster and Midland are receptive to the idea. But Lloyds believes that leasing is a better way of helping industry and Barclays is not thought keen.

The CLCB paper argues that critical comparisons between bank lending in the United Kingdom and in France, Germany and Japan have overlooked different definitions and the real differences between bank lending in different countries are much smaller than suggested.

Furthermore if all sources of industrial loan finance are included, they argue that total lending to industry in the United Kingdom for 1980 comes out at 35 per cent of *gdp*, compared with 37 per cent in France, 43 per cent in Germany and 114 per cent in Japan.

Dismissing claims that they concentrate too much on short-term lending, they say that the average maturity of bank loans appears to be about three years in France, Germany and the United Kingdom.

The banks also reject criticism that they lend *too* much to the personal sector and are too concerned about company gearing ratios.

Bank Lending and Industrial Investment: free from Banking Information Services, 10 Lombard Street, EC3V 9AR.

'Crisis' in US savings industry

From Bailey Morris
Washington, March 4

The United States savings industry, alarmed by reports *that as many as 1,000 thrift* institutions could go under in the coming year, has asked the Reagan Administration to approve a massive, $10,000m *bail-out programme* for marginal institutions.

Warning of "imminent crisis," two associations representing more than 80 per cent of America's thrift institutions proposed a three-year aid programme to pump money into institutions and stimulate the housing market.

"We can no longer wait for interest rates to fall", Mr Roy G. Green, chairman of *the United States League of* Savings Associations said.

The League has supported the National Association of Mutual Savings Banks aid package.

If approvd, the plan would rank as the largest Federal bail-out in modern times.

The Reagan administration has said repeatedly that it does not favour Federal aid to corporations, preferring *instead* to let market forces prevail.

This has been reiterated by both White House and Treasury officials. "This Administration Strongly opposes any plan to bail out the ailing thrift industry", Mr Shannon Fairbanks, White House adviser on housing issues, said.

Still, the savings industry, which had a combined operating loss of more than $6,000m last year, has considdirable political support and could force the Administration into a compromise *position.*

Democrats on the House Banking Committee, for example, have already unveiled their own $18,000m housing aid programme which includes support for thrift institutions.

Rentokil

Preliminary Announcement

	1981	1980
	£000	£000
Group turnover	97,982	82,100
Group profit before tax:		
Historic	14,201	12,818
Current cost	10,929	9,485
Group profit after tax:		
Historic	7,009	7,363
Current cost	3,737	4,030
Earnings per share:		
Historic	7.36p	7.75p
Current cost	3.92p	4.24p
Dividends Interim paid November 1981 (10.5% with tax credit of 4.5%)	15.000%	13.570%
Final proposed payable 5th May, 1982 (18.0% with tax credit of 7.714%)	25.714%	22.857%
	40.714%	36.427%

These figures exclude exchange surpluses of £1,011,000 (1980: deficits £994,000) on translation into sterling of overseas net assets. Such differences have been taken direct to reserves.

Share register struck for dividend 2nd April, report and accounts to shareholders 8th April.

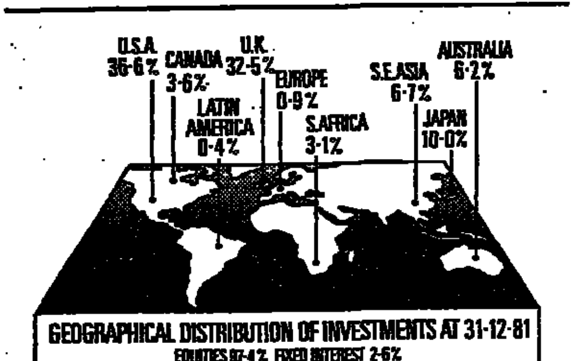
Annual general meeting 4th May at Felcourt, East Grinstead, West Sussex.

Rentokil Group PLC

Scottish United Investors

Summary of the year

	1981	1980
Total Assets	£133,164,898	£130,421,687
Net Assets	122,953,954	115,846,227
Net Asset Value	73.9p	69.7p
Gross Revenue	6,482,238	5,919,494
Net Revenue	2,639,493	2,509,803
Dividend	1.60p	1.53p



PRINCIPALLY INVESTED OVERSEAS

Copies of the Accounts available from: SCOTTISH UNITED INVESTORS plc, 37 RENFIELD STREET, GLASGOW G2 1JU

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E Actual	P/E Fully Taxed
125	100	Ass Brit Ind CULS	125	—	10.0	8.0	—	—
75	62	Airsprung Group	72	+1	4.7	6.5	11.4	15.8
51	33	Armitage & Rhodes	45	—	4.3	9.6	3.8	8.5
205	187	Bardon Hill	198	—	9.7	4.4	9.6	11.7
105	100	CCL 11% Conv Pref	105	+2	15.7	15.0	—	—
104	67	Deborah Services	67	—	6.0	9.0	3.3	6.3
131	97	Frank Horsell	130	—	6.4	4.9	11.7	24.1
83	39	Frederick Parker	81	—	6.4	7.9	4.1	7.9
78	46	George Blair	52	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	Ind Pref Castings	95	—	7.3	7.7	6.8	10.3
106	100	Isis Conv Pref	106	—	15.7	14.8	—	—
113	94	Jackson Group	96	—	7.0	7.3	3.0	6.8
130	108	James Burrough	112	—	8.7	7.8	8.2	10.3
334	248	Robert Jenkins	250	+2	31.3	12.5	3.5	8.8
61	51	Scruttons "A"	61	—	5.3	8.7	9.4	8.7
222	159	Torday & Carlisle	159	—	10.7	6.7	5.1	9.5
15	10	Twinlock Ord	13½	—	—	—	—	—
80	66	Twinlock 15% ULS	78	—	15.0	19.2	—	—
44	25	Unilock Holdings	25	—	3.0	12.0	4.5	7.6
103	73	Walter Alexander	77	—	6.4	8.3	5.1	9.0
263	212	W. S. Yeates	226	-2	13.1	5.8	4.3	8.7

Prices now available on Prestel page 48146

BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

Wondering about Woolworth . . . oil cheers

Talking shop with men from the City



Still looking for recovery in the High Street

Woolworths has invited City analysts to come in and talk about its profits next week (Sally White writes).

This may not, on the surface, be a remarkable event. But given facts that the profits are expected to slump heavily, and that for months now the shares have been bought only because they stand at a third of the historic assets, or a quarter of the current-cost assets, it is thought that Woolworths might just have some good news to impart.

Estimates of the pretax figures from Woolworths for the full year range from £23m to £30m. Most of the analysts are bunched around the £26m to £30m level.

At about the £28m the earnings per share are about 3.5 on a full tax basis. The yield is about 12 per cent. In spite of aggressive marketing, with cuts in prices to try to pull in customers, the long awaited recovery in Woolworths' retail sales was still failing to appear.

Mr Geoffrey Rodgers, the chairman, has been encouraging the development of a whole host of new ideas. DIY has received the most publicity. But the "Wonder of Woolworths" promotional line has not so far materialized in hard figures.

So the trading and profit performance to be revealed by Woolworths next week is awaited with interest. The group has not been over-generous with information about itself over the past few months. There have been such worrying changes as the demoting of the credit rating of the parent group in the United States.

"Most of the news that we have heen following is the trail of announcements of the shops that they have been selling off", said one of the analysts. "What we want to know is how much they have raised — if only to see how much is left. But most important is the retailing performance. If they have failed to meet expectations again, then we will be back to scrutinising the property portfolio."

Historic assets stand at 152p a share, and on a currentt-cost basis, 209p. Closing price today was 56p.

Woolworths is undoubtedly a superb property portfolio. The bulk of the shops are freehold properties, and they are scattered around the most important shopping centres of the country.

Curiously brokers report more private client buyers of the stock as a property speculation than institutions — possibly because many institutions have long been stale bulls, and do not want to extend their risks.

There has been no sign of any buyer. The United States parent is, of course, the key to the company's position — it owns 53 per cent of Woolworths in this country.

The share price has been very stable recently at the mid-50s. That compares with a 1981/82 high of 73p, and a low of 41p. But several large holders are expected to sell into any rallies — until the chance of a bid becomes more substantial.

Components take a back seat

British Leyland's profits continue to present a tale of woe — a large reason why investment interest has túrned its back on the motor component sector (Sally White writes). The best news from the industry so far this year was the forecast that the volume of cars would go from 394,000 in 1981 to 450,000 this year.

Motor component suppliers have seen some Stock Market buying recently — particularly Associated Engineering.

Expectations of Associated Engineering's pre-tax profits for the year to September are about £10m to £14m. But for the year after that Henderson Crosthwaite are going for £17m-£18m. That is as much from cost cutting as increased demand. On that basis the earnings are selling on multiples of around just under 12 and just over 6.

Birmid Qualcast recently reported good pre-tax profits — up from £225,000 to £1,635,000 — but the company said the improvement in the automotic supply side came from measures taken, not an upturn in business.

Allied to a weak pound

Allied Colloids, the Bradford-based specialist chemicals producer is one company which will welcome the drop in North Sea oil prices and any consequent weakening of sterling (Drew Johnston writes). For not only does it export four-fifths of its output, but its raw materials are also derived from oil-based products.

These factors are partly responsible for taking the shares to 186p, which is a high for the year.

Allied is vulnerable to a strong sterling/dollar exchange rate, but has been making the most of the present circumstances. For the six months to October 1981, pretax profits were £4m. In the previous full year the profit was only £4.04m. (Some analysts are now forecasting profit of £9m for the year to March, on a fully-taxed rating of 17.8.

For the following year, analysts at De Zoete & Bevan, the stockbrokers are looking for a further profits improvement to about £11.5m.

Allied supplies its high technology chemical products to the mining, textiles and oil industries. Earl this year it announced it had bough 70 acres of land in Suffolk, Virginia, United States of America, to build a manufacturing plant. The City approved of the location because Allied already conducts a lot of its business in the United States and knows the market well.

Likely from the company's cost-cutting operation over the last few years and the expectation of higher dividends also helped the share price to rise.

The dividend could rise by between 15 and 20 per cent to an estimated 4.6p gross, giving a gross dividend yield of 2.6 per cent.

There is some speculation that the shares have strengthened on the possibility of a takeover bid.

In 1979 the shares were suspended after an approach from an American company, believed to have been Merek.

The latest speculation points to a possible bid from Burmah, the oil company.

INTERNATIONAL



Japan

The Japenese Government and the car industry have not decided on the ceiling for car exports to the United States in the 1982 fiscal year starting next month, according to International Trade Ministry officials in Tokyo.

A spokesman for the Japan Automobile Manufacturers association said the private industrial organization did not know when a self-restraint limit, yer to be calculated would be announced.

● Hitachi of Japan said yesterday it had developed a copper-carbon material for semiconductors that would replace expensive materials such as tugsten ad molydenum used in the silicon chip computer memory device.

● Four Japanese groups have been jointly awarded a $400m (216.8m) order by Indonesia' state oil compny, Pertamina, for a petrochemical plant nd equipment.

CHINA

Swindlers who made huge profits by selling fake American shares have been arrested in Peking. The *Workers Daily* said the gang hit on the idea of selling the shares after reading that frozen United States assets in China would be released under an agreement reached in 1979. Customers were told they would receive up to $550,000 in dividends if they bought enough shares.

AUSTRALIA

A Japanese textile company paid a world record price for a bale of wool at an Australian wool sale yesterday.

The price of 12,500 cents (£7.40) a kilo for the superfine merino fleece wool was way above the precious record of 4,600 cents set by the same company, Fujii Keori of Osaka, in 1973.

● The need to hold down wage increases will slow Australia's economic growth, says the Commonwealth Banking Corporation. Australia's inflation rate is increasing, and measures to hold down wages will restrict growth for the rest of 1982 and "some time beyond," the Commonwealth forecast.

UNITED STATES

The United States should increase strategic stocks of grain and petrol to help stabilize prices and hold down inflation, according to the Brookings Institution, an independent research organization.

● Orders booked by United States industry declined 1.2 per cent in January, following the December drop of 0.3 per cent. Stocks held by industry in January fell 0.4 per cent.

FRANCE

Electricity prices go up 10 per cent and gas prices up seven per cent in France today. Domestic heating oil and diesel oil go up marginally, but petrol is reduced by five centimes.

WEST GERMANY

Otto Lambsdorff, Economics Minister, is confident that West Germany's gross national product will grow a real or price adjusted 1 per cent to 1.5 per cent this year. The real GNP declined 0.3 per cent in 1981. The minister said that the seasonally unadjusted jobless rate would average around 7 per cent and that the consumer price rise would be limited to 5 per cent on average.

MERCANTILE

Limited recovery

Mercantile Credit, the Barclay's Bank finance house, boosted pretax profit 37 per cent to £52m from £38m for the year to December 1981.

Tax relief for the yeat was up from £76m to £111m, to give a post tax profit of £163m against £114m last time. Minorities were £1.12m against £1.16m, and dividends absorbed £146m against £18m. Retained profits were radically down on last year, from £94.9m to £16.67m.

Mr Douglas Horner, chairman, said the worst of the recession may now be over and a limitedrecovery of the United Kingdom economy could be expected.

"Although the volume of our new consumer business increased over 1980, in general it was a disappointing year for this division of our business," he said. The increase in profits was mainly attributable to the industrial finance side.

MITCHELL COTTS

Mining operations slow down

Mitchell Cotts, which earns almost three quarters of its profits in South Africa warned shareholders yesterday that its mining companies were beginning to feel the effect of an increasing slowdown in work.

It says predicting profits for the year to June has become difficult as a result, although some companies have so far performed reasonably well.

The statement came as Gold dropped through the $350 (£193) an ounce barrier which is thought likely to produce a slowdown in mining operations in South Africa and have the knock-on effect on Cotts mining equipment operations.

Yesterday Cotts reported a 20 per cent increase in pretax profits for the six months to the end of last December at £4.3m on a turnover up 19 per cent to £190.5m.

Much of the increase came from the British transportation side, helped by the South African Bruda International transport firm bought earlier last year.

However, attributable profits rose from £580,000 to £3.3m as a result of profits on sale-and-lease back property deals in South Africa, and analysts are looking for full-year pretax profits of £10.5m against £9m last time.

That should include a 10 per cent deposit from the £160m Nigerian College contract for which financing arrangements have just been finalised, but which Cotts says is not expected to bring significant profits before next year.

The group's interest charge continues to rise, up 14 per cent to £3.1m for the half year. Mr Peter MacKenna, the finance director, declined to talk about the company's borrowings.

Cotts is paying a gross 2.142p half-time dividend against 0.937p to reduce the disparity between the two half yearly payouts.

RANSOMES

Sounder base

Ransomes Sims & Jefferies, the East Anglian agricultural machinery manufacturer, returned to profits in the second half of its financial year, but at £1.03m pretax this is less than half the £2.31m of the previous year.

Sales for the year to January 2 slipped from £48.96m to £42.19m. Total distributions for the year are being held at 15.9p with an 11.43p final dividend.

At the half-way stage the group had lost £102,000 against a profit of £1.66m, and announced a further 275 redundancies bringing the cut in its United Kingdom workforce over the previous 18 months to 1,300.

Mr Geoffrey Bone, chairman, said that while there had been some improvement in the second half, there were few positive indications of a significant upward trend. In some areas, such as local authority spending on grass machinery, conditions could become even more restrictive.

Farm machinrery demand is expected to be better than last year, while stock levels will be reduced.

Earnings per share fell from 49.6p to 16.7p, but with the maintained dividend and the chairman's cautious optimism for the current year the shares put on 3p to 181p.

RENTOKIL

Record profits

Killing pests, preserving wood and industrial hygiene gave Rentokil a record level of pretax profits, up 11 per cent to £14.2m, in the year to December.

But the group says it could have carried out more work in preserving timber but had difficulty finding one of the main products used — a by-product from copper mining.

The United Kingdom business produced healthy growth, with profits up 10.5 per cent to £10.5m. Overall the overseas profits rose by 11.6 per cent to £3.7m but the various divisions showed mixed results.

Losses from the United States business increased to £822,000, against £151,000, but Rentokil believes these will be reduced in the present year. Profits here are still a few years away but for the group as a whole 1982 is expected to see further growth.

DEREK CROUCH

Worst year

Derek Crouch, the opencast mining and construction group, is meeting increased resistance from architects and clients who avoid settling outstanding contracts.

Mr Derek Crouch, chairman, said yesterday that claims worth about £2.5m are being pursued. They are connected with local authority housing contracts, an industrial contract in the Midlands and the over-run of a large contract in the Northwest. Costs have yet to be reimbursed.

He said the company was now diversifying into private construction to reduce its dependence on the public sector.

The news came with results for the year ended in December, which the company described as its worst trading year. Low demand, high interest rates and bad weather in December were blamed for poor results.

Pretax profits fell to £2.4m compared with £3m last time on sales which slumped £11m to £54.6m. Nevertheless, the group is holding the final gross dividend at 4.89p, making a total payment of 7.21p.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	13½%
Barclays	13½%
BCCI	13½%
Consolidated Crds.	13½%
C. Hoare & Co	*13½%
Lloyds Bank	13½%
Midland Bank	13½%
Nat Westminster	13½%
TSB	13½%
Williams & Glyn's	13½%

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000 11%, £10,000 up to £50,000 11½%, £50,000 and over 12½%.

General Mining Union Corporation Limited



(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

AUDITED CONSOLIDATED RESULTS 1981

Earnings per share increased by 17%
Dividends per share increased by 17%

		1981	1980
Group Income before Taxation	(R million)	476.1	406.4
Group Income after Taxation	(R million)	408.7	334.7
Attributable earnings	(R million)	319.8	269.7
per share	(cents)	401.0	343.0
no. of shares	(million)	79.8	78.6
Dividends	(R million)	139.6	117.8
per share	(cents)	175	150
Net Asset Value	(R million)	2,503.4	2,421.1
per share	(cents)	3,138	3,035
no. of shares	(million)	79.8	79.8

On 11 April 1981, the 1,170,000 'A' ordinary shares, which were issued in 1980, were converted into ordinary shares and have been taken into account in calculating earnings per share for 1981.

The full results for 1981 will be dealt with in the annual report which will be issued on 31 March 1982. It is, however, expected that in the absence of unforeseen circumstances, the level of earnings for 1981 will possibly again be achieved in the current year.

4 March 1982

Copies of the full preliminary announcement may be obtained from the London Office of the Company at 30 Ely Place, London EC1N 6UA.

Notice of Redemption

International Standard Electric Corporation

9% Sinking Fund Debentures due 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Indenture dated as of April 1, 1970 between International Standard Electric Corporation and The Chase Manhattan Bank (National Association), as Trustee, $1,463,000 in aggregate principal amount of the above-captioned Debentures will be redeemed for the sinking fund on April 1, 1982 at the redemption price of 100% of the principal amount thereof, together with accrued interest to April 1, 1982.

The numbers of the Debentures to be redeemed are as follows:

M 4	2043	3387	4658	5519	7044	8277	9465	10700	12337	14557	16739	18296	19750	21342	22366	23922	25855	26981	28177
8	2076	3393	4664	5523	7049	8283	9693	10710	12340	14587	16833	18298	19842	21344	22373	23926	25859	27017	28184
10	2102	3394	4666	5526	7062	8301	9705	10723	12350	14590	16841	18314	19851	21352	22399	23930	25875	27028	28196
49	2114	3456	4689	5527	7092	8306	9742	10724	12371	14596	16847	18327	19898	21355	22409	23938	25880	27055	28202
50	2121	3458	4714	5565	7100	8320	9749	10725	12394	14791	16906	18334	19907	21387	22482	23972	25905	27112	28208
345	2151	3471	4716	5567	7101	8326	9777	10732	12397	14940	16907	18369	19997	21389	22511	23978	25913	27118	28221
353	2198	3475	4718	5577	7110	8327	9786	10733	12405	14943	16987	18383	19998	21391	22512	23980	25931	27129	28272
481	2199	3506	4719	5598	7152	8339	9814	10749	12489	14953	17016	18402	20070	21429	22520	23981	25933	27130	28288
511	2211	3527	4721	5634	7193	8359	9815	10750	12502	14959	17017	18414	20107	21438	22569	24028	25934	27133	28350
512	2251	3543	4735	5673	7231	8389	9820	10754	12566	14962	17019	18438	20108	21439	22596	24033	25944	27136	28359
[illegible]																			

On April 1, 1982 there will become due and payable on the Debentures to be redeemed the principal amount thereof together with accrued interest to April 1, 1982. On and after April 1, 1982 interest on the Debentures to be redeemed shall cease to accrue. Payment of Debentures to be redeemed will be made on or after April 1, 1982 upon presentation and surrender of said Debentures, with all coupons appertaining thereto maturing after April 1, 1982 at any one of the following banks:

The Chase Manhattan Bank, National Association
Corporate Bond Redemption
P.O. Box 2020
1 New York Plaza
New York, New York 10081

The Chase Manhattan Bank, National Association
Woolgate House
Coleman Street
London EC2P 2HD, England

The Chase Manhattan Bank, National Association
41 Rue Cambon
Paris, France

Hollandsche Bank-Unie N.V.
Herengracht 434
Amsterdam, Netherlands

Societe Generale de Banque S.A.
Brussels, Belgium

Dresdner Bank Aktiengesellschaft
Frankfurt, Germany

Banque Generale du Luxembourg S.A.
27 Avenue Monterey
Luxembourg, Luxembourg

Banca Commerciale Italiana
Piazza della Scala 6
Milan, Italy

Interest accrued and unpaid to April 1, 1982 on said Debentures will be paid in the usual manner.

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD ELECTRIC CORPORATION

Dated: February 26, 1982

BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

PEOPLE

Lloyd has new man of steel

Forward, discreet accountant, Mr Lewis Robertson. He is the new chairman of F. H. Lloyd, the steelmaker. Outwardly Lloyd has got on rather well without a Supremo since the turbulence of last August when Mr Ronald Middleton the chairman designate, was, in the event, not asked to take office and Mr Robert Foster the former incumbent, decided to stay on after planning to resign.

Key to this strange sequence was Cooper Industries which seemed to succeed with a boardroom coup on the back of a 29 per cent shareholding — which it still has. The investment protection committee of the British Insurance Association started, however, to throw its weight about noiselessly but effectively to spoil Cooper's game and with the help of headhunters has now discovered Robertson, 59, who tells me: "there is nothing organically wrong with Lloyd; it needs several months of calming down.

Mr Lewis Robertson

Alhaji M T Bature, managing director of Nigeria Airways is also a civil servant and a barrister. Surprisingly, perhaps he wants to see Nigeria Airways back in private hands. "We are in a very bad shape and slowing down all our projects," he said. "I would like to go private but I think I would still like to see the Nigerian Government have a say in the airline." It could be a private company within three years, he thinks, and once the loans are converted into equity, the airline could have capital of £200m instead of the current overdraft of £10m.

It's the new Government health warning. It says: "Non-smoking is bad for revenue".

J. R. hampered, not harassed

An eventful first visit to London this week for Dr Jacques Rouquie. He is the president of the tourist committee of Lot, the bit of France west of Bordeaux and north of Toulouse where the foie gras comes from. He led a crowd of Lot hoteliers and restaurateurs who were to be hosts at a lunch to launch the publication in this country of the Logis de France hotel guide.

With the delegation was supposed to arrive a hamper of Lot specialities, foie gras, truffles and fillet of smoked goose — but alas, British Airways said, the hamper was still in Paris — or somewhere.

Luckily BA managed to find and fly over the hamper just in time for lunch — whereupon one of the guests said: "Er, I'm a vegetarian ..."

Dr Rouquie shrugged and said in French: "All's well that ends well," and got on with the first course, a walnut salad.

It will be fizzy drinks from vending machines round every corner soon if The Can Makers have their way. It is a trade organization just formed by the big can makers partly as a defence in the battle with glass and plastic bottles, as chairman John Preston admits. Preston, sales and marketing director of American Can (UK), yesterday launched a £100,000 scheme to persuade on a 50-50 cost basis the fillers of cans to flood Britain with fizzy drink vending machines. We have only about 1,000 at present.

Peter Wainwright

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Mr Leslie Carpenter, chief executive of the publishing and printing product area, has been appointed to the new post of chief executive of Reed International from October 1, 1982. **Sir Alex Jarratt** will continue as chairman of Reed International until 1985.

Amersham affair — how much are the City experts really worth?

Mr Michael Richardson of N. M. Rothschild & Son is said to be close to the Prime Minister. It is ironic, therefore, that he should be at the centre of the storm over the Government's sale to the private sector last week of Amersham International which makes radio-active isotopes. Mr Richardson, head of corporate finance at Rothschild, is blamed on all sides for pricing Amersham too low and thereby depriving the Exchequer of £25m, or, in bricks and mortar terms, a couple of hospitals.

The Amersham affair has damaged not only the reputation of Rothschild, but of the City generally. Predictably, Labour MPs have described the affair in terms of yet more City profiteering at the expense of the taxpayer. Those in the know make money; those outside the charmed circle lose out. Following on the heels of the privatization of British Aerospace last spring and Cable and Wireless in the autumn, the charge is that the Government has not only pursued its ideological aim of transferring public assets to the private sector, but in so doing, has made a great deal of money for its friends in the City.

But it is not only left-wing politicians and the taxpayer who have watched in anger or bewilderment as the speculators rush to make a sure-fire killing.

Industrialists, suffering the worst recession in 50 years and forced to close many factories, are scathing in private at what they regard as the City's easy money-making machine.

Amersham, offered for sale at 142p, rose to 192p within two days, giving the stags a varying degree of good fortune.

It is not just the large premiums achieved on Amersham, and the two earlier privatisation issues which angered the men at the sharp end. The age-old suspicion of those who make money from money instead of things, rose up once more when it was learned that the total cost of the £71m Amersham issue was £2.6m. Broken down, Rothschild, acting as merchant bank adviser to the Department of Energy, and Morgan Grenfell, acting for the company, picked up £310,000 between them. Thje stockbrokers and underwriters made £844,000, National Westminster, which was basically a clearing house for the application forms, collected £500,000, while the Government's stamp duty took £750,000.

"We live in two completely different worlds", the deputy managing director of one of Britains largest multinationals says.

"We have subsidiaries employing high powered managers engaged in the newest technology, which do not earn £310,000 a year". The bankers fee for Amersham.

"The Gaovenment, or anyone else, should not pay for bad advice."

"The City should adopt the same values as the private manufacturing sector. That is to provide value for money."

This senior industrialist believes that the fees of merchant banks and stockbrokers should be published and should in the case of takeovers, be taken off the final price paid by the bidding company.

"Takeovers are gladitorial contests between merchant banks, and companies should be wary of their motives in encouraging the bidder to pay a higher price".

Two years ago, GEC initially refused to pay Schroder Wagg a fee, estimated at £500,000, for its unsuccessful defence of Averys, the weighing machine people. That bid battle lasted a year, went to the Monopolies Commission and at the end of the day, GEC had to pay more than it had planned to buy Averys, and was then faced with a bill from the bank which forced it into that position.

Negotiations to reduce the fee dragged on for some time and set an example to other companies that they need not pay up then moan; rather, they can negotiate in the knowledge that there is no legal liability to pay the bill.

Like GEC, most large companies do not pay an annual retainer to a financial adviser. Much of the routine advice from a merchant bank or stockbroker, ranging from the presentation of annual accounts, through how to avoid an unwelcome bid, to dividend policy, is in effect free. This free advice must be taken into account when the fees for a rights issue or takeover are presented.

So say the merchant bankers. But many industrialists argue that there is no excuse for the scale fees charged as a matter of "custom and habit".

Basically, merchant banks and stockbrokers charge a more or less standard fee for both offers for sale and rights issues. The underwriter, usually the merchant bank handling the issue, will pay the sub-underwriters, (those who guarantee to pick up any shares not taken up by the investing public) a fee totalling 1¼ per cent of the issue. The merchant bank itself would normally receive ½ per cent while the stockbrokers fee would be ¼ per cent.

Expressed in fractions, these seem relatively small sums. But they are substantial when BP is raising £624m or the Government is seeking £224m from the public for the sale of a majority stake in Cable & Wireless and £150m from the British Aerospace offer.

Mr Tim Barker of Kleinwort Benson, who handled the BA and Cable & Wireless issues, defends the fees charged.

Kleinwort charged the Government an amount in both cases which was rather less than would be payable in a conventional issue. Mr Barker points out that this fee of ½ per cent was split between four banks in the case of BA and three in the Cable & Wireless offer.

Company	Merchant bank	Value of offer	Total cost
British Aerospace	*Kleinwort, Benson	£150m	£3.6m
Cable & Wirless	Kleinwort, Benson	£224m	£3.9m
Amersham International	N M Rothschild, Morgan Grenfell	£71m	£2.6m

*Includes underwriting fees plus fees payable to merchant bank, stockbroker, legal expenses and cost of prospectus.



The rush is on as Amersham goes up for sale

For its fees, Kleinwort masterminded all the financial preparations. It brought together lawyers, accountants, and clearing banks and organized an independent auditors report.

While keeping Government and company happy for more than a year by allaying a multitude of fears, Kleinwort, in the case of BA, had to judge the effects of the Defence Review upon the company's prospects. The Cable & Wireless offer was complicated by waiting for guarantees that licences would be granted by the authorities in Bahrein and Hong Kong, both profitable areas for the company.

Although midnight oil is burned, countless meetings held and events around the world closely watched, much of the work involved in producing the prospectus is mechanical and could be handled by a word-processor.

But where the banks and brokers say that they really earn their fees is in bearing the risks involved.

This is the crux. Judging by their initial stock market performances, BAe, C & W and Amersham proved to have been under-priced and were seen to be so by investors. So there was no solid case for guaranteeing the success of the issue when there was only a minimal risk involved. This was the view taken by Mr Nicholas Ridley, Financial Secretary at the Treasury, who would have preferred a tender offer for Amersham by which investors bid their own prices for the shares.

What angers those outside the City is the feeling that merchant bankers and brokers seem to make little financial distinction, between success and failure. Even had Amersham been a straight tender offer without underwriting, the financial advisers would still have picked up their ½ per cent or ¾ per cent.

The first question involves the method of sale. Amersham has proved there is a conflict between the Government's desire to ensure that privatisation is seen to be a success, and the ability of the private sector to carry out the operation equitably and without the unedifying spectacle of gamblers lining their pockets at the taxpayers expense. The means by which the Government offers its own stock, might provide some guidelines.

Second, the City shold examine the question of how it is rewarded for risk. Scale fees are not broken down in offer documents and it is difficult, particularly in takeovers, for a company to know how much it will pay its advisers at the end of the day. Finally, how much should the Government or company pay for what is mainly routine work inpreparing the prospectus.

Such questons might best be answered by an in-depth investigation by the coucil for security industries. This might save the taxpayer money and the Citys' image.

Kevin Page

Business Editor

The banks reply to their critics

When attacked, produce a weighty document with which to hit your critics over the head — in whatever sense you choose. That, anyway, is what the clearing banks have done in reply to what they consider to be ill-founded criticisms of their role as providers of funds to United Kingdom industry.

One might, perhaps, add that the banks have taken their time in responding fully to an argument that has been rumbling on for several years now, not to mention the fact that they have not helped themselves in the past by providing so little maturity analysis of their loan books.

But some at least of the argument is of the bolting the stable door after the horse has bolted variety. There is no doubt that the banks have changed their attitudes and practices quite considerably over recent years, partly in response to criticism, partly in response to the increased competitive pressures within the banking system itself.

What is of key importance at the moment is that industry gets all the help it needs as it picks itself off the floor, and that the banks (as well as the Chancellor) are seen to be playing their part.

That may or may not mean the introduction of the Grylls' scheme (or some variation) for net interest payments by industry, a scheme about which some banks are more enthusiastic than others. It will almost certainly mean that the banks will have to watch the balance of their personal and industrial lending as the economy recovers.

It may also mean that the monetary authorities will have to take a fresh look at the ever expanding role of the banks as the major financial intermediaries; first, from the viewpoint of seeking ways to neutralize the monetary impact; and secondly from the prudential desirability of seeing the ratio of public sector assets in bank balance sheets steadily evaporating.

Markets

Opposing views

We now appear to have some diametrically opposed views of the world in London and Wall Street. Over here, the slump in oil prices is seen as a sign of hope, promising lower inflation and a stimulus to recovery. In the States, the fall in the oil prices seems to be taken as just another sign of deepening world recession — with depression increasingly replacing recession in newspaper headlines.

As far as the stock market goes, the position is not being helped by stock sales to raise cash for margin calls on plummeting oil stocks. Meanwhile, few people are prepared to predict a floor for the gold price until something happens to mark the end of high real interest rates in America.

Zero-coupons

Japan acts

Spoilsports at the Japanese Finance Ministry have been threatening to ruin the fun for the Eurobond market's latest fad, zero-coupon bonds, ever since this sector took off in mid-January. Japanese investors have had a voracious appetite for these issues.

Against some expectations that the tax laws would be changed to reduce the attractions in such issues, a typical Japanese ploy has been used with local brokers now being "instructed" not to sell them to local residents. With more than $7,000m zero-coupon issues in the last couple of months, the Japanese authorities are disturbed at the effect on their own capital market and more expecially on what such inflows would do to the yen.

Rumours of such an informal ban sent the market into a spin on Wednesday as Japanese broking houses with big inventories swamped the market. Dealers, however, were amazed at how well the market recovered yesterday as buyers came out of the woodwork in Europe.

There is a technical explanation for this in that most zero-coupon issues were looking overvalued in any case and have now become that more attractive after this week's sharp falls. But the real reason is simply that investors still like the look of the capital gearing at a time of reducing interest rates, while with little of the maintenance costs involved in coupon clipping and so on in straight issues, zero-coupons are a lazy way of handling a Eurobond portolio. Nothing really changes in the Eurobond business.

The multi-million pound connection

TECHNOLOGY: OFFICE OF THE FUTURE

By Clive Cookson

Computing and business equipment companies are engaged in a ferocious battle over what is the best way of linking the components of the automated office of the future — computers, word processors, executive workstations and electronic files. Hanging on the answer are billions of pounds worth of sales over the next decade.

Local area network (LAN) is the general term for the technique of connecting electronic equipment so that users can exchange information and share computing resources within an office. Researchers have come up with many different LAN configurations and ways of sorting out the potentially chaotic flow of data, and corporate marketing forces are lecturing bewildered customers about the relative merits of "bus" or "ring" or "star" networks, "broadband" versus "baseband" capacity, "token passing" against "collision detecting" systems — to mention just a little of the jargon involved.

The most controversial and most heavily-promoted LAN is Ethernet, originally invented by Xerox but now a joint venture with two other American corporations, Digital Equipment and Intel. Ethernet makes its British commercial debut later this month when Rank Xerox installs a small network at the Sun Life Assurance office in Bristol; it will start off with nine word processors attached to a central computer. The second British Ethernet will be a £250,000 network with 30 terminals at the Greater London Council, which should be installed by May.

In the United States, Ethernet experience dates back to the experimental network which Xerox began in 1975. Commercial sales did not begin until last year. Already 35 American companies operate Ethernet systems in their offices, and Xerox hopes to add several hundred more over the next few years.

But the early leader of the LAN pack is Arc, the network developed by Datapoint. This fast-growing Texan firm claims to have installed more than 2,000 Arcs since 1977, including 100 in Britain. This country's largest Arc system is in the London office of the Chase Manhattan Bank, with 40 workstations.

For most customers, the important difference between Arc and Ethernet is not in technology but in marketing strategy. Xerox wants Ethernet to become the industry's standard for linking electronic equipment in an office. It has published all the network's specifications and any company can make Ethernet components without paying royalties (the only licensing fee is a nominal $1,000 which Xerox says covers the costs of distributing the specifications).

Datapoint, in contrast, has kept Arc firmly in its own grasp as a closed, proprietary network. Arc's technical details are unpublished, and so far it has been licensed only to Tandy, the big American microcomputer manufacturer. A company opting for Arc commits itself to Datapoint office products, while an Ethernet customer can buy equipment from a variety of competing suppliers.

According to Mr William Lynch, technical planning manager in Xerox's office products division, 22 manufacturers have publicly declared their intention to make components and products compatible with Ethernet; the most recent company to sign up was Siemens, the West German electronic giant, last week. Already 10 firms are selling Ethernet-compatible workstations or terminals.

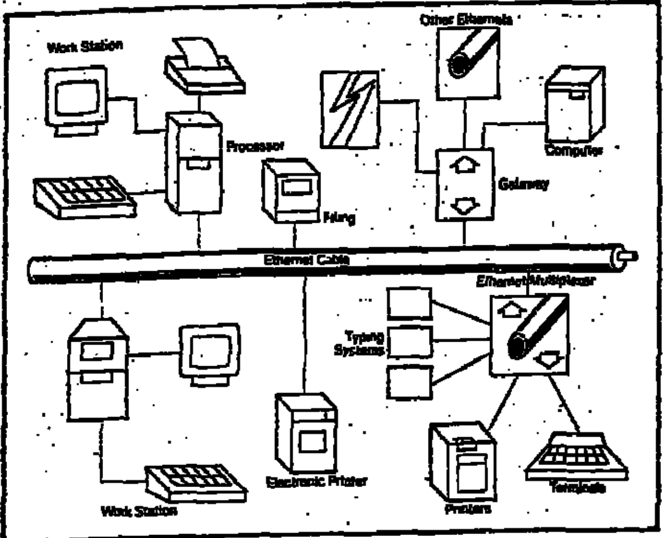
Technically, Ethernet and Arc are both "bus" networks, which use open-ended coaxial cable to link their terminals. Each terminal has a special microprocessor to control the flow of information between it and the network.

But the two use different approaches to avoid the chaos and collisions that could arise if all machines on the network were free to talk to one another at any time.

Arc is a "token passing" system: an empty electonic packet, the so called token, continually passes up and down the cable. When one of the terminals wants to send a message, it puts the digital information into the packet (unless it is full) and when the packet reaches the machine to which it is addressed, the data is removed and the token sent on its way again.

Ethernet's operating protocol is known as CSMA/CD, which stands for carrier sense multiple access with collision detection. What that means is that everyone on the network is allowed to transmit whenever they like; if the cable is already carrying someone else's message, the machine is told to wait (a short random period) and keep trying again until the line is clear.

Occasionally a collision will occur because two stations begin transmitting at the same moment, both believing the network to be clear; in that case each station detects the collision, waits for a random interval and tries to send the message again.



The Xerox Ethernet cable connects a wide variety of "intelligent" office machines, allowing them to work together and exchange information as a single system.

In practice, since Ethernet can carry up to 10 million bits of data per second (equivalent to the contents of two full-length books), any message will arrive virtually instantaniously. When Digital Equipment studied Ethernet's capacity, it found that up to 2,000 active users could be attached to a single network before waiting times became significant (more than 1,000th of a second).

Although Ethernet's opponents have raised many technical arguments against the network — which are dismissed by Xerox as "myths" — the objection taken most seriously in the business equipment industry is that Ethernet is a baseband network. This means that it has just one channel; only one stream of signals can travel along the cable.

A baseband network does not have enough capacity on its single channel to carry voice and video communications as well as heavy volumes of computer data and electronic messages. A broadband network with a cable carrying several channels — like the Wangnet being developed by Wang — is needed to intergrate office telephone and videoconferencing with data communications.

Xerox and other Ethernet proponents claim that the objection is irrelevant, at least for the next decade, because it will be simpler and more cost-effective to install separate telephone and video systems rather than try to combine everything in a single network.

A broadband network is considerably more expensive than baseband. Connection costs are trebled because the complex electronics needed to sort out communications on the various channels.

Arc has also started life as a baseband network. But Mr Victor Poor, Datapoint executive vice-president for research and development, says it can easily be upgraded to broadband, unlike Ethernet.

"Everyone who is promoting local area networks says their system is compatible with broadband, except Ethernet," says Mr Poor. "I think that's the Achilles heel of the system. It is my conviction that the broadband system is the only serious candidate for standardization in the long term."

SKF

Financial statement, 1981

SKF Group income for the year ending 31 Dec 1981 was 805 million Swedish kronor (MSkr) before exchange differences. Net sales for the Group rose 8.5 per cent.

	Jan-Dec 1981	Jan-Dec 1980
Sales (MSkr)	13,570	12,512
Operating income before depreciation (MSkr)	1,719	1,847
Income before exchange differences (MSkr)	805	953
Capital expenditure (MSkr)	622	492
Average number of employees	50,452	53,026

The rolling bearing sector continued to improve, with a profit of 851 million kronor (829 MSkr in 1980). On the other hand the steel division, facing price concessions due to an over-saturated market, showed a loss of 119 million kronor as opposed to its 1980 profit of 20 million.

Prospects of developing SKF 1982 activities favourably are considered good, the degree of change also depending on when exactly the economic upturn occurs.

Dividends and capitalisation
The Board and Managing Director recommend an unchanged dividend of 7 kronor for A and B shares, and 12 kronor per C share, as well as a 75th Anniversary bonus of one krona for each A and B share. In all, 187 million kronor.

The Board will also recommend shareholders at the Annual General Meeting to raise the Company's share capital to 1350 million kronor by increasing the book value of SKF's shareholding in Krångede AB by 270 million kronor, and issuing capitalisation shares whereby shareholders will receive one new share for every four of the same kind held.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday 28 May.

Aktiebolaget SKF, S-415 50 Göteborg, Sweden.

BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY BELL'S

Stock Exchange Prices

Gilts surge ahead

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 1. Dealings End, March 12. § Contango Day, March 15. Settlement Day, March 22.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

SHIPPING

MINES

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) March 4	Market rates (close) March 4	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.8210-1.8285	$1.8275-1.8285	0.05-0.15c disc	0.40-0.50c disc
Montreal	$2.2240-2.2300	$2.2280-2.2290	0.30-0.40c disc	1.20-1.30c disc
Amsterdam	4.73-4.76fl	4.74-4.75fl	2¼-1¼c prem	5¼-4¼c prem
Brussels	79.60-79.95f	79.80-79.90f	8c prem-2c disc	5c prem-10c disc
Copenhagen	14.49-14.55k	14.51-14.52k	205-295ore disc	630-785ore disc
Dublin	1.2210-1.2260p	1.2240-1.2250p	55-70p disc	165-190p disc
Frankfurt	4.31-4.34m	4.31½-4.32½m	1¾-1¼pf prem	4½-3⅞pf prem
Lisbon	127.25-128.50e	127.35-127.65e	50-185c disc	130-375c disc
Madrid	188.00-188.80p	188.55-188.75p	5-25c disc	70-100c disc
Milan	2324-2333lr	2330½-2332½lr	10½-13½lr disc	37-40lr disc
Oslo	10.89-10.93k	10.91-10.92k	90-par ore prem	95-180ore disc
Paris	11.02½-11.06½f	11.05¼-11.06¼f	¼-1¼c disc	5¾-6¼c disc
Stockholm	10.52-10.57k	10.54½-10.55½k	110-40ore prem	235-165ore prem
Tokyo	428-434y	432-433y	2.90-2.55y prem	7.80-7.50y prem
Vienna	30.25-30.40sch	30.35-30.40sch	15-11gro prem	36-30gro prem
Zurich	3.41-3.44f	3.41½-3.42½f	2¾-2¼c prem	6-5½c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was 91.0 up 0.2.

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 13½%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 13½ Low 13

Week Fixed: 13½

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	13⅜	2 months	13⅜
3 months	12⅞	3 months	12⅞

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	13⅞-13¾	1 month	14¼
2 months	13¾-13⅜	2 months	14
3 months	12⅞-12¾	3 months	13⅞
6 months	12⅞-12⅞	6 months	13⅞

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	14½-14¼	7 months	13¾-13¾
2 months	14½-14¼	8 months	13¾-13¾
3 months	14½-14¼	9 months	14-13¾
4 months	14¼-14	10 months	14-13¾
5 months	14-13¾	11 months	14-13¾
6 months	13¾-13½	12 months	13⅞-13⅝

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	14-13⅞	6 months	13¾-13¾
3 months	13⅞-13⅞	12 months	13¾-13¾

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	14¼-14	3 months	13⅞
7 days	14¼-14	6 months	13⅞
1 month	13⅞	1 year	13¾

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 14½-14⅞ Close 14

1 week	14½-14⅞	6 months	13⅞-13⅞
1 month	14¼-14	9 months	13⅞-13⅞
3 months	13⅞-13⅞	12 months	13⅞-13⅞

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 14¼ 6 months 14⅛

Finance House Base Rate 15%

Other Markets

Australia	1.6970-1.7120
Bahrein	0.6845-0.6875
Finland	8.2495-8.2895
Greece	110.65-112.65
Hongkong	10.67-10.71
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.5165-0.5195
Malaysia	4.2033-4.2335
Mexico	79.00-87.00
New Zealand	2.3105-2.3305
Saudi Arabia	6.21-6.24
Singapore	3.8315-3.8615
South Africa	1.7815-1.7965

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.4915-1.4945
† Canada	1.2204-1.2206
Netherlands	2.5920-2.5950
Belgium	43.65-43.68
Denmark	7.9523-7.0575
West Germany	2.3850-2.3860
Portugal	70.00-70.20
Spain	103.15-103.25
Italy	1275-1276
Norway	5.9750-5.9800
France	6.0500-6.0530
Sweden	5.7750-5.7800
Japan	236.85-237.00
Austria	16.57-16.59
Switzerland	1.8700-1.8720

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8193-0.8195

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 13¾-13¾; seven days, 14½-14½; one month, 14⅝-14⅝; three months, 14⅞-14⅞; six months, 14½-14¾.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $347 (an ounce); pm, $346.50 close, $344.25.
Krugerrand (per coin): $357-359 (£195.5-196.50).
Sovereigns (new): $85-86 (£46.5-47).

T — Z

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
26	15	TACE	18	..	..	..	..
121	85	TSL Therm Synd	100	+2	10.0b	10.0	12.4
25⅞	10⅞	Takeda BDR	£21¼	-¼	17.6	0.8	23.5
6½	2½	Talbex Grp	4¼	..	..	..	..
444	316	Tarmac Ltd	444	+8	23.3	5.2	7.6
220	126	Tate & Lyle	202	+3	16.4	8.1	5.0
607	441	Taylor Woodrow	545	..	19.0	3.5	9.7
400	260	Telephone Rent	328	..	14.6	4.5	16.3
71	48½	Tesco	56½	..	3.8	6.7	6.1

MISCELLANEOUS

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
46	37½	Calcutta Elec	41	..	8.8	21.4	..
34½	29	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£32½	..	500	15.4	..
34	29	Gt Nthn Tele	£34	..	150	4.4	12.8
265	150	Imp Cont Gas	183	-5	11.9	6.5	11.6
158	93	Milford Docks	144	..	0.7	0.5	..
193	122	Nesco Inv	133	..	10.0	7.5	..
35	28½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£31¼	• ..	500	16.0	..

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
A and G Sec Elect 5p Ord (80a)	79
Amersham International 25p Ord (142)	192
Baillie Gifford Japan Trust 25p Ord (100)	73
City Site 25p Ord (35a)	30
Computer and Systems Eng 20p Ord (225)	238-2
Cussins Property Group 20p Ord (82)	84
Equipu 10p Ord (80a)	87
Exchequer 13¾% 'A' 1987 (J)	£22⅝+½
Good Relations Group 10p Ord (61a)	78
Hardanger Properties 10p Ord (100a)	104
Hayters £1 Ord (150a)	160
Moray Firth Exp	90
Newmarket Co (1981) Ltd $0.05 (£3.05)	265
Nimslo Int $0.20 Ord ($4.25a)	235-3
Owners Abroad 10p Ord (10a)	34¼
Peek Holdings 7p Ord	13½
Saxon Oil 50p Ord (12½p paid)	43
Speyhawk 10p Ord (115)	133
Television South West 5p Ord	15
Treasury 3% 1987	£85¾+½
Treasury 2½% Index Linked 2011 (+I)	£38⅛

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
Lovell Y. J. (228+)	Mar 26	264+2
Smith St. Aubyn (25‡)	Mar 19	40+1

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a unlisted securities market. b. £10 paid. f fully paid. g £40 paid. h £30 paid. i £35 paid. j £20 paid. k Issued in units of sixteen shares and £5 nominal loan stock at £9 per unit.

هكذا من الاصل

SPORT

FOOTBALL

Scots build an elite highway to survival

A survival plan for Scottish football has been worked out after threats that some clubs would form a breakaway group. It will be discussed by the Scottish League management committee in three weeks' time. It entails increasing the premier division from 10 to 16 teams with two non-League sides being invited to join the League.

The move comes after rumblings of dissatisfaction among leading clubs suffering a slump in attendance and rumours of a new league. It seems likely that if the plan is successful one club from the Highland League and another from the Borders could be invited to become part of the Scottish League.

Relegation would be abandoned in the premier division this season with the top six from the existing first division joining the 10 sides now forming the elite. A spokesman said that all 38 clubs had received letters intimating the meeting which he described as "essential to its safeguarding the existence of the game".

The proposals are designed to take effect from next season. A two-thirds majority is required to bring them to fruition. The title "Premier Division" would be scrapped and the new leagues numbered One, Two and Three.

Celtic's home attendance was 9,000 for their premier game against Morton on Wednesday night — their lowest for many years. Appropriately, one of the staunchest advocates of a sweeping change is Morton's managing director, Hal Stewart. Three weeks ago he issued a document on behalf of his club to all clubs pleading with them to back a change in the League format.

Mr Stewart stresses that it is bank managers who run football clubs nowadays and that "they are the first people we must satisfy".

The Bond bond may be broken

Kevin Bond has asked his father, John, for a transfer from Manchester City. He feels a move would be the best solution to an uneasy situation at the club brought about because City's England under-21 international, Reid, said he would not play in midfield and wanted one of the central defensive positions. Bond and Caton have been playing there and Reid feels he has been played out of position in midfield.

☐ Brazil were jeered by a bored 100,000 home crowd in Sao Paulo on Wednesday night after a colourless 1-1 draw against Czechoslovakia. The Brazilian midfield quickly took control of the game, but their forwards missed several promising chances until Zico opened the scoring after 48 minutes. Berger equalized from a counter-attack in the last minute.

☐ George Berry, the Wolverhampton Wanderers defender, has been suspended for one match by the FA for collecting 20 disciplinary points and misses tomorrow's match at Middlesbrough. Don McAllister, of Charlton Athletic, is out for wo games, starting with tomorrow's trip to Sheffield Wednesday, also for reaching 20 points.

☐ West Bromwich Albion are to add a second Dutch midfield player to their line-up. Jol's former Twente Enschede colleague, Zonderyan, travels to the Midlands today to complete his transfer move.

Hull manager sacked by official receiver

By Norman Fox

Mike Smith, the Hull City and former Wales manager, is to take legal advice over his dismissal yesterday by the official receiver who had been called in to deal with Hull's financial crisis.

Mr Smith was told by the receiver, Mr Martin Spencer, that because of the club's insolvency his contract was terminated. Chris Chilton, the reserve team manager, and Bobby Brown, the youth development officer, have been asked to take charge but Mr Brown will be "invited" to take a drastic cut in his salary.

Cyril Lea, who was the manager's assistant both at Hull and with Wales, and Gordon Dimbleby, the commercial manager, have also been dismissed. Mr Spencer said that the club could no longer afford them. He also asked Christopher Needler, the chairman, to stop providing funds.

Mr Smith, whose five-year contract had nearly three years to run, said: "We are stunned, disappointed and very angry. We don't know what to say or do. I will say my piece when it is suitable. I haven't got anything to say yet because it may be used in evidence against me. I am consulting my solicitors".

It is unlikely that Mr Smith will receive compensation for the uncompleted years of his contract, beleived to be worth a total of £175,000. Mr Lea's contract was for the same period and estimated to be worth £125,000. Mr Dimbleby's contract was to expire in July, 1983.

Gordon Taylor, secretary of the Professional Footballers' Association, said the move could help relations between the players, all of whom are on the transfer list, and the club. He also felt it could help relations between the PFA and the League. The PFA feel that too much blame for football's financial crisis is being placed on players.

Mr Smith, a quiet, respected manager, was a player with Corinthian Casuals. He was appointed manager of Wales in 1974 after six years in charge of coaching and development. He spent five years sucessfully improving Welsh football before moving into League football with Hull. He failed to save them from relegation into the fourth division and the inevitable fall in gates.

Optimism based on a Teutonic theme

By Norman Fox

Dismissing thoughts of Bayern Munich, or anyone else, ending the run of five successive British victories in the European Cup, Liverpool's manager, Bob Paisley, said yesterday that experience would ensure his team a place in the semi-finals despite an unconvincing 1-0 win over C.S.K.A. Sofia at Anfield on Wednesday.

Many of the crowd of under 30,000 would have been prepared to defend Mr Paisley's assertion. Liverpool have gone into away European ties with less in their favour, but the style of their performance this week prompted doubts, whereas, in Romania, Bayern Munich comfortably beat Universitatea Craiova with goals from Breitner and Rummenigge and must be sure of a place in the last four.

Mr Paisley has no special regard for Bayern. He used their name as evidence of his optimism. He said: "We drew 0-0 at home with them but won 1-0 at their place, so we know we haven't lost this match yet." His sentiment was founded on last season's semi-finals. In fact Liverpool drew 1-1 in Munich.

There was defiant talk yesterday from Tottenham Hotspur after their 2-0 Winners' Cup win over Eintracht Frankfurt. Although the Spurs manager, Keith Burkinshaw, said his side were beginning to struggle before Miller pulled them together with an opening goal, Miller himself said they would have been satisfied with a single goal lead: "We created eight reasonable chances in the first half without getting any luck," he said.

Dundee United's 2-0 victory over Radnicki Nis, of Yugoslavia, in the Uefa Cup did not persuade the manager, Jim McLean, to withdraw his threat to drop several players from tomorrow's league match against St Mirren.

Barton's double goal

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

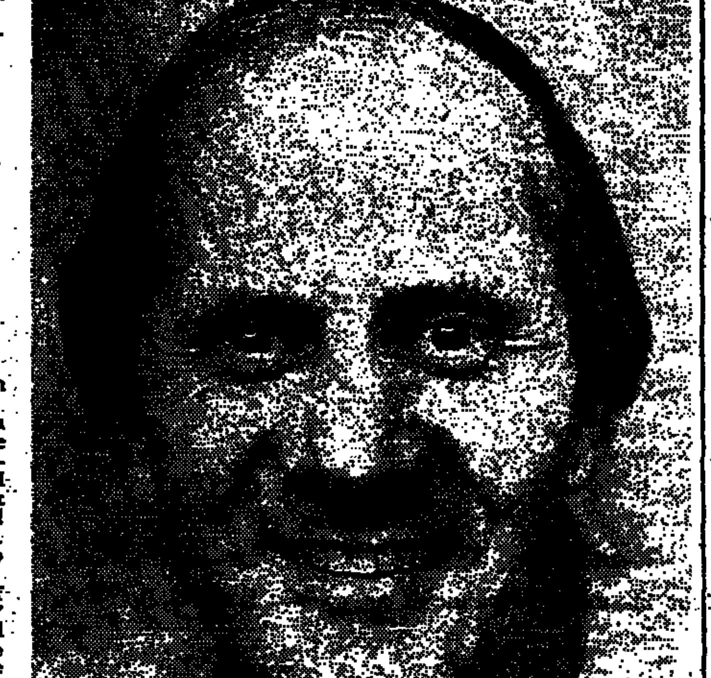
Tony Barton has reason to remember Simferopol. There on Wednesday in the drab capital of the Crimean peninsula, he watched the laying of two foundation stones. Work will continue until the night of March 17 when the public will be able to foresee both the shape of Aston Villa's season and of Mr Barton's future.

As caretaker and newcomer to managerial duties, he designed Villa's approach to their European Cup quarter final tie against Dynamo Kiev. His side followed his instructions implicitly, and their subsequent goalless draw completed, as he said yesterday, "the first half of a difficult job". If they finish the second half successfully at Villa Park, then he is likely to be appointed on a permanent basis as successor to Ron Saunders.

It was not the first time that he had seen the champions of the Soviet Union. A two-year-old video tape of their European Cup meeting with Malmo gave him an idea of what to expect, "and they played in exactly the same way". The first leg in 1980 ended in a goalless draw, Malmo won the return at home 2-0 and went on to reach the final.

Blokhin, given a free role, was and is the danger to Villa's progress. Still remarkably quick, he was particularly threatening when he dropped back to gain possession and lose markers. The rest of the side, however, showed little adaptability.

Champions they may have been for the last two years, it is their predictability that, according to local journalists, is Kiev's main failing. They are not surprisd by Wednesday's outcome and, what is more, added that they expected the World Cup side to be filled with the more talented representatives from Dynamo Tbilisi.



Mike Smith: 'I'm consulting my solicitors.'

Public give £2,500 to aid Kettering

By Paul Newman

Kettering Town, who are £100,000 in debt, have had an encouraging response to their appeal for financial support from the general public. The Alliance Premier League club, in the past considered one of the healthiest in non-League football, say they need to raise £10,000 within the next fortnight and £35,000 by the summer if they are to survive.

Two public meetings have led to the formation of five committees who will organize the rescue operation. More than £2,500 has already been raised to help to save the club, who finished runners-up to Altrincham in the league last season and have one of the best grounds outside the Football League.

Kettering's case emphasizes the importance of off-the-field activities to non-League clubs, for their difficulties do not stem from low attendances or excessive wages. Despite their poor form this season, Kettering's gates have remained around the 1,200 mark. Their annual wage bill of £50,000 is smaller than many of their rivals'.

Maurice Marston, the secretary, believes Kettering have suffered through not owning their own social club. "We haven't had a source of revenue seven nights a week", he said. "We have recently opened a club on the ground, but it's very small at the moment."

Kettering's problems came to a head after a series of postponements because of the weather. Their telephone was cut off because of an unpaid £500 bill, which is still outstanding, and Colin Clarke, their player-manager, left to join nearby Corby Town. Jim Conde, Mr Clarke's assistant, has been acting as caretaker manager.

☐ Grantham, who were on the verge of bankruptcy earlier this year, now look certain to survive. The Norhern Premier League club, whose president is Margaret Thatcher have already sold 3,000 of a new issue of 20,000 £1 shares and have also signed a seven-year sponsorship deal with Wheatbread, the brewer, worth more than £10,000.

David Boothman, tha Grantham chairman, personally saved the club £95 last week. The reserves, depleted by injuries and first team calls, looked as though they would be unable to fulfil a fixture until Mr Boothman stepped in to play to save the club the £95 postponement fee.

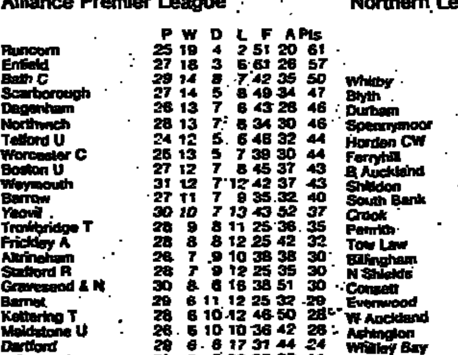
☐ Colwyns Bay's profits from their Welsh Cup fifth round matches against Swansea City are unlikely to go towards a new ground. The Welsh League club are set to move from their present home, where they do not even have floodlights, at the end of the season and alreaday have a site earmarked for a new ground.

Swansea won Tuesday night's replay at the Vetch Field 2-0 after refusing Colwyn's Bay's request to switch the game from their own ground, to nearby Rhyl, who have floodlights. The first match at the Vetch Field ended in a 2-2 draw.

☐ The Southern and Northern Premier Leagues could award three points for a win next season.

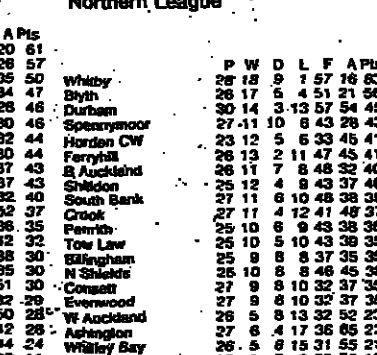
☐ Altrincham, the Alliance League champions, have Tony Sanders, their manager, another two-year contract.

☐ Seven wins in seven matches in February have earned Eddie McCluskey, of Enfield, the Alliance League's manager of the month award.



Alliance Premier League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Runcorn	25	19	4	2	51	20	61
Enfield	27	18	3	6	61	26	57
Bath C	29	14	8	7	42	35	50
Scarborough	27	14	5	8	49	34	47
Dagenham	26	13	7	6	43	28	46
Northwich	28	13	7	8	34	30	46
Telford U	24	12	5	6	46	32	44
Worcester C	25	13	5	7	39	30	44
Boston U	27	12	7	8	45	37	43
Weymouth	31	12	7	12	42	37	43
Barrow	27	11	7	9	35	32	40
Yeovil	30	10	7	13	43	52	37
Trowbridge T	28	9	8	11	25	36	35
Frickley A	28	8	8	12	25	42	32
Altrincham	26	7	9	10	38	38	30
Stafford R	28	7	9	12	25	35	30
Gravesend & N	30	8	6	16	38	51	30
Barnet	29	6	11	12	25	32	29
Kettering T	28	6	10	12	46	50	28
Maidstone U	26	6	10	10	36	42	28
Dartford	29	6	6	17	31	44	24
A P Leamington	30	2	5	23	26	82	11



Northern League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Whitby	28	18	9	1	57	16	63
Blyth	26	17	5	4	51	21	56
Durham	30	14	3	13	57	54	45
Spennymoor	27	11	10	6	43	28	43
Horden CW	23	12	5	6	33	45	41
Ferryhill	26	13	2	11	47	45	41
B Auckland	26	11	7	8	48	32	40
Shildon	25	12	4	9	43	37	40
South Bank	27	11	6	10	48	38	39
Crook	27	11	4	12	41	48	37
Penrith	25	10	6	9	43	38	36
Tow Law	25	10	5	10	43	39	35
Billingham	25	9	8	8	37	35	35
N Shields	26	10	8	8	46	45	38
Consett	27	9	8	10	32	37	35
Evenwood	27	9	8	10	32	37	35
W Auckland	26	5	8	13	32	52	23
Ashington	27	6	4	17	36	65	22
Whitley Bay	26	5	6	15	31	55	21
Willington	27	1	7	19	35	78	10

NORDIC SKIING

Britons are joining in the citizen races

By Ronald Faux

There is little loneliness at this time of year for long-distance skiers in Scandinavia. The competitive season reaches a climax with the Vasaloppet race over 85 kilometres at Salen in Sweden, held tomorrow, and the Birkebeiner Rennet race at Lillehammer, Norway, on March 21.

Between these events, which attract mass starts many thousands strong, there is the Engadin ski marathon around a 42-kilometre course at Maloja in Switzerland. They are classed as citizen races and their popularity demonstrsates the great attraction of Noric skiing which is slowly developing a following in Britain.

John Noble, Nordic coordinator with the English Ski Council, is a widely experienced ski mountaineer and on on the few British competitors to take part in the König Ludwig Lauf at Oberammergau in West Germany last month. "I was very delighted to come in about 200th considering it was my first attempt and there were 1,800 competitors behind me". Among them was Mike Parsons, the managing director of Karrimor, the British company that specialise in retailing cross-country skis and equipment in this country.

Nordic is the oldest form of skiing. West German ski schools in particular have reported that learning to ski on the narrower, lightweight skis used in cross-country quickly develops a natural feel for moving on skis and a better sense of balance that in possible in the popular stiff and heavy Alpine boots.

It is common to have 6,000 or more competitors taking part in the big races. Anyone is eligible and is given a starting position in accordance with the date on which his entry arrived. Preference is given to champions, the formidable skiers whose names are household words on the other side of the North Sea, but who are little known on this side.

Skiers who have achieved a particularly good time over the distance are also allowed to join the front ranks. "They form a race within the race with the massed ranks of the hopeful breathing down their necks", Mr Noble said.

British skiers seem to stand little chance of reaching the highest echelons of the sport at present because British snow is rarely good enough or long enough to put in the concentrated practice.

The English Ski Council, who are keen to encourage the sport and increase British participation in Continental races, intend to promote the use of Nordic skis on a number of dry ski slopes. They also aim to spread the use of roller skis which provide another way of training in a country relatively empty of snow, and to earmark any undulating countryside free from obstacles near to towns and cities as cross-country ski areas.

Golf club secretaries, it seems, may expect a lively interest in their courses the next time there is a covering of snow.

SKIING

Miss Konzett triumphs

Waterville Valley, New Hampshire, March 4. — Ursula Konzett, of Lichtenstein, won a World Cup slalom event here today with a combined time of 1 mon 29.55 sec. She had led after the first run with a time of 45.14 sec. and consolidated her position with a second time of 44.41 sec.

Christine Cooper, of the United States, was disqualified. She was 0.26 sec behind Miss Konzett after the first run and was hurtling down the 57-gate second run yesterday in sight of a possible victory when she collided with a gate and her right ski was ripped from her boot.

Rose Maria Quario, of Italy, in twelfth place after the first run, recorded the best time of the second section, 43.33sec, to edge out Tamara McKinney, of the United States, for second place. Miss Quario's time was 1min 29.85sec, just one-hundredth of a second better than Miss McKinney's.

Erika Hess, of Switzerland, the women's leader both overall and in the slalom events, failed to finish after missing a gate. That error allowed Irene Epple, of West Germany to make up ground in her chase for the overall title by finishing ninth. She is now 13 points behind Miss Hess.

RESULTS: 1, U Konzett (Liechtenstein), 1min 29.55sec; 2, M R Quario (Italy), 1:29.85; 3, T McKinney (US), 1:29.86; 4, D Zini (Italy), 1:30.19; 5, M Tlalka (Poland), 1:30.23; 6, R Steiner (Austria), 1:30.24; 7, L Soelkner (Austria), 1:30.33; 8, M Epple (WG), 1:30.68; 9, I Epple (WG), 1:30.84; 10, F Serrat (France), 1:30.96.

WORLD CUP OVERALL: 1, E Hess (Switzerland), 277; 2, I Epple, 264; 3, C Cooper (US), 156; 4, C Nelson (US), 145; 5, Miss Konzett, 132; 6, Miss Soelkner, 127; 7, P Pelen (France), 118; 8, H Epple, 116; 9, L Chaud (France), 98; 10, Miss Quario, 97.

WORLD CUP SLALOM: 1, Miss Hess, 120; 2, Miss Konzett, 100; 3, Miss Quario, 77; 4, Miss Cooper, 68; 5, Miss Pelen, 67; 6, A Kronbicher (Austria), 58; 7, D Zini (Italy), 56; 8, H Wenzel (Liechenstein), 45; 9, M Tlalka (Poland), 39; 10, A Leskovsek (Yugoslavia), 38.

NATIONS CUP: 1, US, 523; 2, Switzerland and W Germany, 517; 4, Austria, 482; 5, France, 430; 6, Liechtenstein, 238; 7, Italy, 203; 8, Canada, 173.

COMBINED NATIONS CUP: 1, Austria, 1,102; 2, Switzerland, 1,086; 3, US, 916; 4, W Germany, 559; 5, France, 486; 6, Italy, 422; 7, Canada, 395; 8, Liechtenstein, 377. — Reuter and AP.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm) —	°C
Andermatt	160	310	Good	Varied	Good	Snow	2
Icy patches on south-facing slopes							
Arosa	160	210	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	5
Powder on good base							
Courmayeur	*160*	*285*	*Good*	*Heavy*	*Fair*	*Cloud*	4
Good snow on upper slopes							
Grindelwald	50	140	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	2
Snowing, and more expected							
Isola 2,000	130	170	Fair	Varied	Fair	Cloud	2
Ice on south-facing slopes							
Klosters	135	240	Good	Powder	Good		2
Newpowder on good base							
La Plagne	150	350	Good	Varied	Good		
New snow on good base							
St Ashton	100	430	Good	Heavy	Good	Snow	1
New snow on firm base							
Sauze d'Oulx	20	65	Varied	Heavy	Fair	Thaw	8
Slush on lower slopes							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain; L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes.

TENNIS

Davis Cup draw is perfect for Britain

From Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent
Rome, March 4

Britain's already high morale received a further boost with today's draw for their first round Davis Cup tie against Italy, to be played here from tomorrow until Sunday.

When asked what he thought of the draw, Paul Hutchins, Britain's manager, grinned broadly, and responded: "I'm very happy, thank you." He had reason to be, because Christopher Mottram plays first, as he wanted to, and the angle of the sun will be less troublesome for the left-handed Richard Lewis by the time he gets on court.

At 10.30 tomorrow morning Mottram will play Adriano Panatta, whom he beat in straight sets in the first match of the 1979 tie here. Then Lewis will tackle Corrado Barazzutti.

Saturday's doubles pairs can be changed up to an hour before they go on court, but it is likely that Andrew Jarrett and Jonathan Smith, both fresh, will play Paolo Bertolucci and Panatta, who by that time will presumably be a little tired and probably a little despondent. At the age of 31, Panatta does not recover from tough matches as quickly as he used to. Win or lose, he is likely to spend more energy against Mottram than he would against Lewis, a less adept player on shale courts.

The form suggests that Mottram will beat Panatta and tire him, leaving him vulnerable for Saturday's doubles against a pair who have become a confident and formidable partnership since they beat the same two Italians in last year's tie at Brighton.

The only slightly encouraging thing about the draw from an Italian point of view is that Panatta will play his toughest match when he is at his fittest; and his opponent, Mottram, has the difficult task of producing his best form on shale a week after competing indoors at Genoa.

Mottram, though, is in superb form at the moment. He could win both his singles and Britain could also take the doubles, which is exactly what happened at Brighton last year. But on shale, the Italians may win what should be a thrilling and possibly crucial doubles.

If they do, it will be up to the great-hearted Lewis to produce the kind of performance with which another big left-hander, Roger Taylor, upset the odds by beating Istvan Gulyas in Budapest in 1966. "But you don't have to depend on Lewis," one pessimistic Italian journalist said. "You can depend on the Italian players".

Mottram is the only survivor from the British team beaten 4-1 here in 1979. By contrast, the only Italian change will be in the doubles, won for them in 1979 by Barazzutti and Tonino Zugarelli.

The Italians are all between 29 and 31 years of age, compared with Britain's age range of 24 to 27.

Britain have an obvious chance to win what should be a memorably tense tie. Their only previous successes in 13 ties against Italy were at Rowhampton in 1922 (the first Davis Cup tie Italy ever contested), Rome in 1926, Eastbourne in 1933, and Brighton last year. The last time Italy lost a Davis Cup tie in Rome was as long ago as 1966, against South Africa.

The winners here will play either New Zealand or Spain. So will the losers, in a play-off to decide which of the first-round losers will be relegated to the zonal qualifying competitions of 1983.

CAPITAL MARKETS

A HK$566m loan, backed by the United Kingdom Exports Credits Guarantee Department, has been arranged to finance the purchase of railway cars from Metro-Cammel for Hongkong's new subway line.

Lazard Brothers arranged the loan for the Mass Transit Railway Corporation, a quasi-government body. Providing the funds are the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Chase Manhattan Bank, Grindlays Asia, Midland Finance (HK), Morgan Guaranty Trust of New York and Barclays Bank International.

Transcanada Pipelines is raising $100m through a 10-year Eurobond. The bond will carry an indicated 16 per cent coupon and open pricing to be set next Wednesday. Union Bank of Switzerland (Securities) and Salomon Brothers International are joint lead managers, and there will be 10 co-managers. The bond is callable in 1988 at 102 per cent, market sources said, with the premium spread declining by ½ per cent each year to par. A purchase fund will retire $4m in each of the first four years, giving an average life of 8.8 years.

Kloeckner-Werke, the West German maker of steel and specialized machines, yesterday reported a loss of DM86m in the year ended September 30, 1981 after breaking even the previous year.

A company spokesman said that Kloeckner would again be unable to pay a dividend. He pointed out that the company would more than cover the loss on its balance sheets by bringing some DM100m out of its free reserves.

The company said that lower turnover and operation losses on its steel operations could not be fully covered by earnings, and higher turnover in the group's machine making division.

Linde, The West German maker of forklifts, refrigeration equipment and industrial gases, is proposing an unchanged DM9 as share dividend for 1981.

Figures published by Linde indicated that net earnings in 1981 were around DM42.57m, compared with DM47.19m in 1980.

Mannesmann Demag, 89.6 per cent owned by Mannesmann, said earnings last year were down from 1980, when world net income was DM29m including profit transferred to parent company.

In a shareholders letter giving preliminary data for 1981, Demag said good foreign business failed to offset the impact of weak domestic demand, and results were further hit by high interest rates.

Domestic incoming orders fell 10 per cent to 992m, but orders received from abroad rose 15 per cent to 2,730m raising the foreign share of orders received to 73 per cent from 68 per cent on 1980, Demag added.

OVERSEAS COMPANIES

The Union Bank of Switzerland, the largest Swiss Bank, announced yesterday that it would propose an unchanged dividend for 1981, a year in which net profits rose 14.3 per cent.

The proposed dividend would total 100 SWfr per bearer share, SWfr20 per registered share and SWfr4 per participation certificate.

While profits rose to SWfr382m from 334 million francs, the bank's balance sheet expanded by 20.9 per cent to SWfr93,738m. The balance sheet grew approximately 10 per cent on a basis comparable with last year if the newly required inclusion of bullion accounts into the balance sheets is not taken into consideration.

The board decided to issue a dividend in the form of bonus participation certificates. One certificate will be issued free of charge for every two bearer shares, for every ten registered shares and for every 50 participation certificates already held.

The West German Federal Cartel Office is forbidding Philip Morris Inc. of the United States from acquiring a 50 per cent interest in Rothmans Tobacco Holdings Ltd. of Britain — to the extent the acquisition affects West Germany.

The ruling, made yesterday, is aimed at preventing the two West German subsidiaries of Philip Morris and of Rothmans Tobacco from strengthening their position in a cigarette market that is already dominated by five leading tobacco groups.

BIDS AND DEALS

Rosehaugh Company, a former tea plantation group which has transformed itself into a property developer, has accompanied reduced half year profits with plans for a large office scheme at Croydon.

Pre-tax profits fell from £1.83m to £1.18m in the six months to December with turnover slipping from £10.67m to £10.19m. As last year there is no half-year dividend.

The group has paid £8,500 for an 85 per cent stake in Cardwool Ltd, which has acquired a 2.5 acre site adjacent to East Croydon station which forms part of an area on which there is outline planning consent for 700,000 sq ft of offices and shops together with a new rail station.

Leisure Industries Group, a newly-formed holding company for Leisure Industries, of Bideford, Devon, said it is seekig a quotation on the unlisted securities market following a placing of part of its share capital by Samuel Montagu in conjunction with Panmure Gordon.

Leisure Industries manufactures and markets snooker and pool tables for family entertainment, as well as a range of children's products including toys.

Over the three years ended March 31 last year sales have grown from £2,480,000 to £4,486,000 and pre-tax profits have increased from £228,000 to £482,000. The compnay's aim is to become a broadly based leisure products group.

Two of the company's principal shareholders, Midland Bank Industrial Finance and Mettoy, will be selling part of all of their holdings to facilitate the placing.

Cable maker BICC said its subsidiary Balfour Kilpatrick has formed a joint Mexican company, Dicomsa Kilpatrick de Mexico, capitalized at 160 pesos 160m (£2.3m) with Group Dicomsa.

Bicc said the new company, with Balfour Kilpatrick holding 49 per cent will take over and expand group Dicomsa's electrical and mechanical contracting interests.

Bestobell has acquired Armtec Industries the United States electronics company for $7.5m. Based in Manchester, New Hampshire, Armtec employs about 350 people and manufactures quality electronic components for the aerospace, electronics and a wide range of industrial markets.

Staveley Inc, The United States subsidiary of Staveley Industries, acquired all the shares of Sonic Instruments, the NDT Systems and Ultrasonic instruments manufacturer of Trenton, New Jersey.

Burmah Oil announced yesterday that its takeover bid for Croda International had lapsed after acceptances reached only 16.9 per cent of the voting capital.

Most of these acceptances represent shares Burmah bought in the market during a dawn raid late last year just before it launched the bid. The offer closed at 3.30 pm when it was clear it would lapse since Monday's decision not to raise its 70p cash per share terms.

This was the last day the terms could be lifted and the Burmah board indicated that if it were to secure Croda it would need to top the near £80m offer by £20m — a level it felt unable to justify.

Burmah picked up 14.9 per cent last December and its offer was accepted by just 2.9 per cent of Croda shareholders.

WALL STREET

Prices opened lower in active trading of New York Stock Exchange issues today.

The Dow Jones Industria Average was off by 1.15 points to 814.01 shortly after the market opened. Declines outnumbered advances by 484 to 251 among the 1,076 issues crossing the tape.

Early "big board" volume reached about 3.53m shares. Oils, coals and transportation issues have fallen in the last couple of sessions as OPEC and non-OPEC members have lowered prices because of the oil glut.

Energy selling has been intense since Britain lowered its prices by $4.00 a barrel and some key analysts have lowered their recommendations and earnings estimates.

Heavy trading has indicated that many institutions are still "cleaning out" their portfolios of energy issues prior to the end of the first quarter.

[illegible]

Canadian Prices

[illegible]

COMMODITIES

COPPER: High grade was steady at the lower levels yesterday. — Afternoon. — Higher grade cash, £833.50-834; three months, £862.50-863.00. Sales: 14,225 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £833.50-834.50; three months, £861-861.50. Sales: 1,000 tonnes. Morning. — Higher grade cash, £835-835.50; three months, £863.50-864.00. Settlement, £835.50. Sales: 19,200 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes: £833-834; three months, £860-861. Settlement, £834.00. Sales: 700 tonnes.

TIN: Standard cash, £7,040-7,050 a tonne; three months, £7,270-7,280. Sales: 22,695 tonnes. High grade, cash, £7,040-7,050; three months, [illegible]

[illegible]

ALUMINIUM closed barely steady. — Afternoon. — Cash, £575-576.00 per tonne; three months, £597.50-£598.00. Sales, 5,100 tonnes. Morning. — Cash, £576.50-£577.00; three months, £599-£600.00. Settlement, £577.00. Sales, 2,825 tonnes.

NICKEL was easier. — Afternoon. — Cash £3,050-3,060 per tonne; three months £3,072-3,079. Sales, 234 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £3,090-3,095; three months £3,105-3,110. Settlement, £3,095. Sales, 432 tonnes.

RUBBER (pence per kilo): — Apl 48.20-48.30; May 49.10-49.20; Apl/Jne 48.90-49.00; Jly/Sep 52.50-52.60; Oct/Dec 55.50-55.50; Jan/Mch 58.10-58.30; Apl/Jne 60.80/61.00; Jly/Sep 63.50-63.80; Oct/Dec 66.50-66.70. Sales: 50 lots at five tonnes each and 555 at 15 tonnes, including 33 kerbs of which three are options.

COFFEE: ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): [illegible]

[illegible] spring No 1, 14 per cent afloat, £120; Apl £110.75; May £110 trans-shipment east coast sellers. US hard winter, 13½ per cent, Mch £116.50 trans-shipment east coast quoted. EEC unquoted. English feed fob: Mch £114.75; Apl £116.25 traded east coast.

MAIZE.— French: second half Mch £135 trans-shipment east coast seller. S. Afr white—optional yellow: Apl/May £79.00 seller. S. African yellow unquoted.

BARLEY.— English feed fob: Mch £111.75; Apl/Jne £115 traded east coast. All cif U.K. unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta) EEC origin. — BARLEY: March £107.20; May £110.90; Sept £102.35; Nov £106.20; January £110.00. Sales: 118 lots. WHEAT: March £111.70; May £115.50; July £106.80; Nov £110.45; January £114.25. Sales: 256 lots.

[illegible]

LATEST RESULTS

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Derek Crouch (F)	54.6(85.7)	2.46(3.04)	9.62(11.42)	3.4(3.4)	2/4	5.05(5.05)
Family Inv. (F)	—(—)	0.39(0.43)	6.12(6.36)	3.6(3.6)	13/5	6(6)
Antofagasta Rail (F)	15.2(8.4)	3.83(0.76a)	37.5(13.3a)	7.0(—)	—	7.0(—)
Intervision Video (I)	2.81(—)	0.43(—)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Law Debenture (F)	—(—)	1.64(1.53)	8.79(8.47)	5(4.75)	17/4	8(7.25)
Medminster (I)	5.09(5.21)	0.13(0.16)	—(—)	1.5(1.5)	8/4	—(3.7)
Mitchell Cotts (I)	190(159)	4.3(3.5)	—(—)	1.5(0.85)	10/5	—(3.61)
Rea Bros. (F)	—(—)	0.83b(0.75b)	—(—)	1.2(1.06)	21/4	2(1.67)
Rosehaugh (I)	10.1(10.6)	1.18(1.83)	17.08(30.32)	—(—)	—	—(2.1)
Ransomes Sims (F)	42.1(48.9)	1.03(2.31)	16.7(49.6)	8(8)	18/5	11(11)
Rentokil (F)	97.9(82.1)	14.2(12.3)	7.38(7.75)	1.8(1.6)	—	2.65(2.65)
Tavener Rutledge (F)	6.86(6.64)	0.022(0.087a)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
W. N. Sharpe (F)	15.5(14.57)	5.74(5.11)	41.3(37.2)	4.5(4)	1/5	8(7)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. a Loss; b After tax.

CRICKET

Boycott's county future is in melting pot

By Keith Macklin

Events in South Africa are casting long shadows over Headingley. On Sunday the full Yorkshire general committee will meet for the long-awaited final act of deliberation on the proposals of the sub-committee which has been looking into the county's affairs.

Inevitably, the flight to South Africa of Geoffrey Boycott and others has thrown a large new boulder into an already troubled stream. The major point of discussion will be the future, if any, at Yorkshire County Cricket Club of Boycott, whose contract expires in September.

There are those prepared to argue that Boycott's future with Yorkshire is totally separate from the politically explosive doings of the so-called cricketing mercenaries in South Africa. Only a handful of people in Yorkshire hold this view; for many Yorkshire supporters, particularly those of the anti-Boycott lobby, his apparent defiance of the spirit and word of the Gleneagles Agreement and the secrecy of the operation are further chapters in the recent history of his misdemeanours and errors of judgment.

The recommendation from the sub-committee is that Boycott should be allowed to leave the county on the expiry of his contract. There are several other recommendations but these pale into insignificance besides the Boycott affair which has been a festering sore in the side of Yorkshire cricket for several seasons.

The meeting is scheduled to start at Headingley at 10.30 on Sunday morning, and indications are that it will be long and torrid, with a press statement from the chairman, Michael Crawford, in late afternoon.

Since the recommendations of the sub-committee were leaked a fortnight ago, the Reform Group and other bodies have been seeking support for Boycott and hoping to sway sufficient members of the general committee to throw out the "let him go" proposal. Not one doubts or underestimates the strength of the pro-Boycott feeling, which has asserted itself at other times of crisis: over the captaincy, alleged dressing-room revolts, slow-scoring, rows with the team manager (Ray Illingworth), and, most recently, the premature return from India.

As one disenchanted Headingley member told me at the famous Test ground: "There are those who believe Geoffrey can do no wrong. If he was alleged to have committed an act of rape, they would accuse the woman of soliciting."

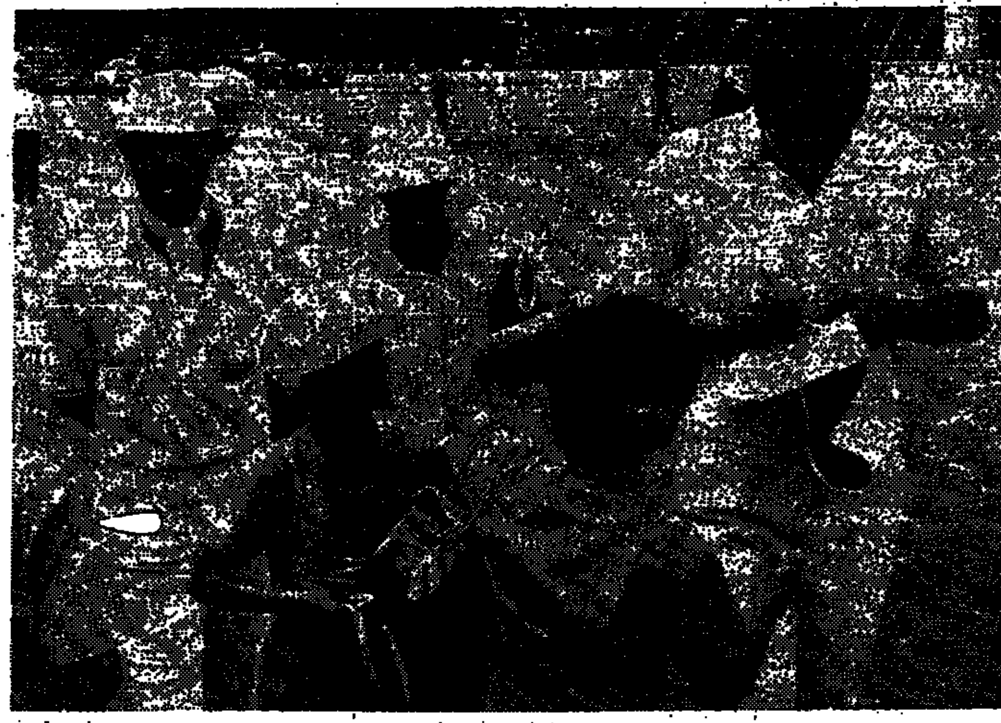
It is this worship of Boycott, rivalling the adulation once given to such as Herbert Sutcliffe and Leonard Hutton, that leads people to believe that Boycott will survive even the South African upheaval. He is still justifiably regarded as the most gifted Yorkshire batsman, the ideal man to build a sound innings and to act as a steadying influence on younger batsmen.

Although critics constantly cite occasions when self-interest has seemed to motivate Boycott far more than the welfare of the team—resulting in slowly-compiled innings when quick scoring has been necessary—Boycott's achievements in statistical terms defy and disarm a great deal of argument.

The other recommendations to be discussed include the suggested appointment of a chief executive, the streamlining of the Yorkshire committee, and the ending of the use of certain "outpost" grounds for county cricket.

There is a great deal of cynicism about these proposals, and the general feeling amongst county members is that the sub-committee's report will get an extremely rough ride. Indeed, one man I spoke to was prepared to say that the recommendations will be dismissed en bloc "and have been a waste of everyone's time".

☐ The Yorkshire Cricket Supporters' Association (the Reform Group) announced yesterday that they would oppose any recommendations unless there is a referendum among the members, the Press Association reports.



Autograph hunters: Taylor signs his name for a small boy, while Boycott (left) and Knott prefer to remain anonymous.

Rain brings early end to first match

From Eric Marsden
Pretoria, March 4

Graham Gooch's team, playing under the banner of the South African Breweries English XI, seem to have decided collectively to defy the severe warning sent them from Lord's of the consequences for them and for English cricket if the tour continues.

One of the tour organizers, Peter Cooke, said tonight, after rain had brought the opening match against a South African under-25 XI to an early conclusion, that the players had received the messages from London and would be replying "in a private manner". He added that the tour would go on as planned, as the players were bound contractually for one month.

The English bowlers hit back on the field at Berea Park this afternoon, taking five early wickets to cause the under-25 side to slump from 51 for one overnight to 114 for six. Underwood took two wickets and Taylor, Hendrick and Emburey one each. After lunch the colts struck back with an eighth-wicket stand of 43 between Radford and van Vuuren and declared at 170 for eight, a lead of 18 runs.

There was special applause for the spin attack of Underwood, who took two for 35, and Emburey, one for 19, for the most effective and economical of the bowlers was the fast-medium Taylor, with two for 30 in 13 overs.

The touring team lost Gooch and Larkins quickly in their second innings, but at 32 for two rain intervened and doomed the match to an early ending. It had been decided to give the team practice in time for the one-day match against a full-strength South African team at Port Elizabeth on Saturday.

In Johannesburg, the president of the South African Cricket Union, Joe Pamensky, issued an indignant rebuttal to suggestions that the tour had been initiated in an attempt to polarize the "white" and "black" cricketing countries into two camps, with England, Australia and New Zealand on one side and Pakistan, India, West Indies and Sri Lanka on the other.

☐ Six thousand tickets were sold in the first three hours of sale yesterday for the Springboks' one-day match against the English XI at Port Elizabeth on Saturday.

ENGLISH XI: First Innings, 152 for 7 dec (A Kuiper 5 for 22)

Second Innings

*G A Gooch, b Radford	11
G Boycott, not out	11
W Larkins, c van Vuuren, b Radford	6
D L Amiss, not out	1
Extras	3
Total (2 wkts)	32

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—16, 2—31.

BOWLING: Radford, 7—2—14—2; Carse, 5—0—15—0; Allan, 2—2—0—0.

SA UNDER-25 XI: First Innings

L Seef, c Knott, b Taylor	18
B Whitfield, c Larkins, b Underwood	37
V du Preez, b Hendrick	15
M Venter, c Knott, b Taylor	2
*A Kuiper, c Taylor, b Emburey	29
D Richardson, c Knott, b Gooch	9
P Allen, c and b Underwood	2
N Radford, c Underwood, b Gooch	29
M van Vuuren, not out	21
Extras	8
Total (8 wkts dec)	170

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—22, 2—58, 3—63, 4—106, 5—108, 6—114, 7—127, 8—170.

BOWLING: Taylor, 13—4—30—2; Lever 7—1—20—0; Hendrick 11—7—17—1; Underwood 15—3—35—2; Emburey 11—2—19—1; Willey 5—1—22—0; Gooch, 4.4—1—29—2.

Australians to be invited

By Staff Reporters

At the Test and County Cricket Board meet in London yesterday to discuss the cricketing consequences of the 12 players in South Africa, it was reported in Melbourne that a team containing Australians and West Indians would be invited to South Africa in October to play a benefit match for the opening batsman, Barry Richards.

Four Australians, Greg Chappell, Dennis Lillee, Rodney Marsh and Jeff Thomson, will be invited together with the West Indians, Gordon Greenidge, Malcolm Marshall and Andy Roberts, who have played with Richards for Hampshire.

Chappell, the Australian captain, who is at present on tour in New Zealand, said he would like to play but only with the consent of the Australian Cricket Board. "If it was for Barry's testimonial, I'd like to go there and play. But I wouldn't do so without first seeking clearance from the Australian Cricket Board," he said.

The board later issued a statement saying it would neither undertake nor approve a cricket tour of South Africa and pointed out that the Australian Government subscribed to the Gleneagles Agreement.

In London, the Test and County Cricket Board's executive committee meeting deferred until today a decision about the Test futures of the players. It is believed that the executive, under the chairmanship of George Mann, considered a resolution from Northamptonshire which in effect proposes banning the 12 players from Test and county cricket. That such a recommendation will go to a full board meeting next Tuesday, however, seems unlikely because of legal complications.

In New Delhi, the cricket authorities said they would await the outcome of Tuesday's meeting before deciding the fate of the tour to England due to start in May.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher again came under attack in the Commons from Labour MPs for not condemning the tour outright. Against a background of demands that she should "clear the air and give a straight answer", she said she endorsed Lord Carrington's criticism of the tour. In Brussels a motion calling for the EEC to ban sporting links with South Africa has been tabled in the European Parliament by Mr Roland Boyes, Labour MEP for Durham.

Gleneagles Agreement

In view of the controversy over the unofficial cricket tour to South Africa, we reprint below the Gleneagles Agreement communiqué published in The Times after the Commonwealth Conference in June 1977:

The member countries of the Commonwealth, embracing peoples of diverse races, colours, languages and faiths, have long recognized racial prejudice and discrimination as a dangerous sickness and an unmitigated evil and are pledged to use all their efforts to foster human dignity everywhere. At their London meeting, the Heads of Government reaffirmed that apartheid in sports, as in other fields, is an abomination and runs directly counter to the declaration of Commonwealth principles which they made at Singapore on January 22, 1971.

They were conscious that sport is an important means of developing and fostering understanding between the people, and especially between the young people, of all countries. But, they were also aware that, quite apart from other factors, sporting contacts between their nationals and the nationals of countries practising apartheid in sport tend to encourage the belief (however unwarranted) that they are prepared to condone this abhorrent policy or are less than totally committed to the principles embodied in their Singapore declaration. Regretting past misunderstandings and difficulties and recognizing that these were partly the result of inadequate intergovernmental consultations, they agreed that they would seek to remedy this situation in the context of the increased level of understanding now achieved.

They reaffirmed their full support for the international campaign against apartheid and welcomed the efforts of the United Nations to reach universally accepted approaches to the question of sporting contacts within the framework of that campaign.

Mindful of these and other considerations, they accepted it as the urgent duty of each of their Governments vigorously to combat the evil of apartheid by withholding any form of support for, and by taking every practical step to discourage, contact or competition by their nationals with sporting organizations, teams or sportsmen from South Africa or from any other country where sports are organized on the basis of race, colour or ethnic origin.

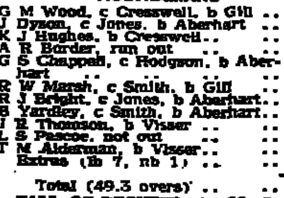
They fully acknowledged that it was for each Government to determine in accordance with its laws the methods by which it might best discharge these commitments.

Heads of Government specially welcomed the belief, unanimously expressed at their meeting, that in the light of their consultations and accord there were unlikely to be future sporting contacts of any significance between Commonwealth countries or their nationals and South Africa while that country continues to pursue the detestable policy of apartheid. On that basis, and having regard to their commitments, they looked forward with satisfaction to the holding of the Commonwealth Games in Edmonton and to the continued strengthening of Commonwealth sport generally.

Dyson the inspiration

Nelson, New Zealand, March 4. — The Australian opener John Dyson hit 97 and inspired a 63-run victory over a combined Nelson-Marlborough team in a one-day 50 overs match today. Dyson, the top scorer provided the backbone of Australia's 195 all out in 49.3 overs, after the local side had collapsed for 132 in 37.2 overs.

Dyson, who batted 171 minutes and hit 13 fours and a six, helped to lift the touring team to a reasonable total afetr they slumped to 105 for six.



AUSTRALIANS

G M Wood, c Cresswell, b Gill	13
J Dyson, c Jones, b Aberhart	97
K J Hughes, b Cresswell	6
A R Border, run out	14
G S Chappell, c Hodgson, b Aberhart	3
R W Marsh, c Smith, b Gill	2
R J Bright, c Jones, b Aberhart	1
B Yardley, c Smith, b Aberhart	21
J R Thomson, b Visser	23
L S Pascoe, not out	4
T M Alderman, b Visser	0
Extras (lb 7, nb 1)	8
Total (49.3 overs)	195

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—29, 2—44, 3—77, 4—85, 5—100, 6—105, 7—143, 8—178, 9—192.

BOWLING: Visser, 9.3—2—42—2; Cresswell, 10—1—25—1; Pierce, 10—2—33—0; Gill, 10—1—50—2; Aberhart, 10—0—37—4.

NELSON-MARLBOROUGH

J Smith, run out	1
A Jones, c Marsh b Pascoe	11
R Pierce, c Marsh b Chappell	1
J Edwards, b Chappell	18
R Hayward, b Chappell	14
W Hodgson, lbw b Pascoe	6
S Gill, b Yardley	15
D Guthardt, c Thomson b Yardley	5
D Aberhart, not out	21
W Cresswell, run out	7
P Visser, c Thomson b Bright	0
Extras (b 8, l-b 13, w 3, n-b 9	33
Total (37.2 overs)	132

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—14, 2—18, 3—21, 4—48, 5—57, 6—66, 7—84, 8—[illegible], 9—126.

BOWLING: Thomson 3—3—0—0; Alderman 3—1—9—0; Pascoe 10—4—17—3; Chappell 10—5—26—3; Yardley 4—1—15—2; Bright 5.2—1—19—1; Wood 3—0—13—0.—Reuter

GOLF

Faldo's ironmongery is equal to the task

From Mitchell Platts, Orlando, March 4

A prolonged spell on the United States golf tour is generally accepted by most players as a positive way to improve their game. True, Peter Oosterhuis required seven years on the circuit before he claimed his first win in the Canadian Open last August but he is now a more complete player and the improvement in Nicholas Faldo, who has played less than one hundred rounds on this side of the Atlantic, is a fair barometer by which to judge such a belief.

In the £150,000 Bay Hill classic, which began one hour late today after a heavy downpour, Oosterhuis and Faldo returned first rounds of 70 and 72 respectively. Nevertheless there were moments when Oosterhuis and Faldo illustrated that their artillery is strongly enough equipped to handle the terrain of courses such as this 7,089 yards monster.

Oosterhuis claims that the reason for his poor showing so far this season—he is a lowly 109th on the money list—is frustration on the putting greens. That was abundantly clear when, after scoring birdies at the 14th and 15th, he missed more opportunities from inside eight feet

Oosterhuis produced some superb long iron approaches to the well-guarded greens including a three iron to 20 feet at the 200 yards second hole, which brought the first of his five birdies.

His most impressive shot was at the 14th, another par three (218 yards), where he struck a two iron with great authority and left the ball some 12 feet from the hole. From there he holed the putt for the second two of his round.

Faldo suffered an early setback as the heavens opened when he was at the 12th; he pushed his drive into trees and, after coming out cleanly, struck a four-iron which left the ball plugged in a bunker. It added up to a six at this 568-yard par five but he underlined why he has been able to climb into thirty-third place on the US money list this year with two superb shots which both brought birdies.

At the 18th—his ninth hole because he had begun at the tenth—the ball strayed into the semi-rough after a slightly pushed drive but he selected a five-iron for a 191-yard shot to the green and left the ball only seven feet from the hole

He showed even greater authority at the ninth when, from 185 yards, he struck a six-iron with such precision that the ball pitched less than six inches from the hole and finished only four feet away.

FIRST ROUND: (US unless stated): 65, S Hoch. 67, S. Watkins; J Haas. 68, H Irwin. 69, D Watson (SA), F Conner, T Kite, E Sneed. 70, P Oosterhuis (GB), P Hancock, K Fergus, J Pate, B Mitchell. 71, L Graham. 72, N Faldo (GB), A Bean, C Strange.

Belle of the Spanish wind

By Lewine Mair

In a thoroughly difficult wind, Belle Robertson added a 74 to her opening 70 to lead the qualifiers for the Spanish Women's Championship at Santa Ponsa by no fewer than six shots. What is more, her score paved the way for the British team of Mrs Robertson, Wilma Aitken and Janet Soulsby to win the Nations Cup — an event tied in with the qualifying rounds — by four shots from a second British side comprising Mary McKenna, Clare Hourihane and Vicki Thomas.

Miss Hourihane finished second behind Mrs Robertson in the individual battle for qualifying first, while all eight members of the 1982 Curtis squad in Majorca under the eye of the 1982 Curtis Cup captain, Mrs Maire O'Donnell, succeeded in reaching the match-play stages. Mrs Robertson was four over fours with four holes to play when she went eagle, birdie, birdie. She let rip with her tee shot at the last in an attempt o finish under par but sadly, wound up with a six.

In the first of the morning's matches Mrs Robertson meets Kimberley Gardner, an American junior who is currently attending a finishing school in Paris.

LEADING BRITISH SCORES: B Robertson 70, 74—144; C Hourihane 73, 77—150; V Thomas 76, 75—151; M McKenna 75, 77—152; W Aitken 74, 78—152; P Wright 77, 78—155; J Soulsby 76, 80—156; M Madill 78, 78—156.

SNOOKER

Virgo loses after 101 break

John Virgo had a break of 101 but it was still not enough to give him victory over Joe Johnson, in the Yamaha Organs snooker trophy round robin series in Derby yesterday.

Virgo began with a 2—1 victory over Dennis Taylor the Irish champion. In his next match he compiled his first century break but then went down by two games to one to give Johnson a winning start to the group.

Taylor, Virgo and Johnson each won one of the afternoon matches, leaving Reardon still to get off the mark.

Terry Griffiths finished top of his group on Wednesday to reach tomorrow's semi-finals. He said: "It will be a lot tougher in the next round." Griffiths and Birmingham's Graham Miles reached the second semi-final to join David Taylor and Cliff Thorburn in the more open of the two groups.

RESULTS: Group three: G Miles beat D Mountjoy 2—0; T Griffiths beat G Miles 2—1; T Griffiths beat J White 2—1. Group four: D Taylor (Blackburn) beat R Reardon (Stoke) 3—1: (7-125, 87-42, 84-41); J Virgo (Rushton) beat D Taylor 2—1 (64-51, 40-104, 78-49); J Johnson (Bradford) beat J Virgo 2—1 (82-32, 9-135, 81-28).

RUGBY UNION

Smith runs to prove his fitness

Steve Smith, the England rugby captain and scrum half, took a full part in the team's two-hour training session at St Mary's College, Strawberry Hill, yesterday and declared himself fit for tomorrow's match against Wales at Twickenham.

Smith, who will win a record twenty-fifth cap against Wales said: "I ran for the first time in a week and I am very pleased with my recovery from an achilles tendon injury." He has also been swimming and exercising since his ankle injury.

Nick Jeavons, a flanker who suffered an ankle injury against France, and Nick Stringer, the reserve full back, who has had a hamstring strain, were also passed fit for tomorrow after further tests yesterday.

Smith said: "We did not give our backs a proper platform against Scotland and Ireland. This time we must get the platform from the set pieces to give them their chance."

Tony Trigg, an international panel referee, will discuss points of the game with the England players in particular he will advise England on their tendency to concede penalties.

The Wales No 8, Jeff Squire (Pontypool), who missed squad training on Monday, is fit and will play against England. He was absent with a heavy cold but has recovered and, with the rest of the Welsh squad, went through a gruelling practice in Cardiff yesterday.

John Lloyd, the Welsh coach, said that the session lasted longer than usual at the players' request.

☐ Scotland's rugby union squad had a tough two-and-a-half hour work-out at Murrayfield yesterday to prepare for tomorrow's international against France. Jim Telfer, the coach, passed them fit.

The French, now at the bottom of the five nations championship, trained in Paris before flying into Edinburgh last night.

☐ Trevor Ringland, the Queen's University winger, is recalled by Ireland for their grand slam match against France in Paris on March 20. He missed Ireland's triple crown win against Scotland because of a hand injury.

IRELAND (v France): H P MacNeill (Dublin Univ); T Ringland (Queen's), M J Kiernan (Dolphin), P S Dean (St Mary's) M C Finn (Cork Constitution); F O Campbell (Belvedere), O J M McGrath (Wanderers); P A Orr (Old Wesley), C F Fitzgerald (St Mary's) (Captain), G A J McLoughlin (Shannon) M I Keane (Lansdowne), D G Lenihan (UCC), J F Slattery (Blackrock), W P Duggan (Blackrock), J B O'Driscoll (London Irish). Replacements: M P Fitzpatrick (Wanderers), J L Cantrell (Blackrock), O K Kearney (Wanderers), K A O'Regan (UCC), J A Hewitt (NIFC), J J Murphy (Greystones).

Tommy Hindley



Joker in the pack: Blakeway makes a jocular point to judge by the faces of Winterbottom, Wheeler and Smart

Gloucester plan SA tour

Gloucester look set to enter the political row over sporting links with South Africa. The players and officials have agreed to attend a mini-tournament in Pretoria in May, providing the Rugby Union agree.

The club has had verbal confirmation that the union do not object to the tour and written confirmation of this is being awaited before the final arrangements are made.

Even if the tour goes ahead the centre, Steve Parsloe, a Cheltenham teacher, is unlikely to go unless he is allowed to change of job. His employers, the Gloucestershire County Council, have refused to allow Parsloe, aged 25, the two weeks off either with or without pay and he has been warned if he goes he will be in breach of contract.

Bob Weighill, secretary of the RFU, said yesterday: "We still believe we have no power to stop teams going to South Africa. All we can do is explain the Government attitude.

"We've had a series of meetings with Neil Macfarlane, the Minister for Sport, and he is not keen on allowing people to go to South Africa but as the law of the land stands we cannot stop them."

The England full back, "Dusty" Hare, the world record points-scorer, is also scheduled to visit South Africa this year to take part in a goalkicking tournament.

Weakened Leicester

Leicester, already weakened by the loss of five internationals, have made two changes to the side that beat the Royal Navy 17—12 on Wednesday night, for tonight's visit of Harlequins. Hall has recovered from an ankle injury and replaces Afflick, while Joyce is included for the injured Gillingham.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Great Britain mean business

By Keith Macklin

The most intensive preparations in history for an international series are scheduled for the players of Great Britain who will be seeking revenge over Australia this winter.

So determined are the Great Britain selectors and managers to wipe out the ignominy of a 3—0 thrashing in the Australian series of 1979, that a remarkable and strenuous training plan will be put into operation in the summer.

A squad of 26 players will be named on April 19 for a three-month programme of strength, speed and fitness training. The programme will be supervised by the senior lecturer in physical education at Carnegie College, Leeds, Rod McKenzie.

Three Rugby League professionals will take charge of the coaching of the game's skills. They are Graham Starkey in Lancashire and west of the Pennines, Roger Millward on Humberside, and Malcolm Reilly in west Yorkshire.

There will be training camps on the weekends of June 5, June 26 and July 24, and emphasis throughout will be on the building up of the very qualities which the Great Britain touring party in 1979, lacked—speed and overall fitness. There will be weeks of endurance, strength and power training, backed up by coaching on playing skills.

☐ Rugby League may be revived in Belle Vue, Manchester, after a break of nearly 30 years. Stuart Bamforth, the Yorkshire businessman who has bought the Belle Vue speedway stadium, is considering plans to revive the game at Hyde Road.

Belle Vue Rangers last played at the stadium in the 1954-55 season. They were formed from Broughton Rangers, a famous team from the early years of Rugby League which disbanded shortly after the Second World War. Mr Bamforth said yesterday that the plans would have to be seriously thought out before being submitted to the Rugby League for approval.

David Howes, the league's publicity officer, said: "This is an exciting venture, but as yet we have had no official approach from Belle Vue. As in the case of Fulham, Cardiff City and Carlisle, we must wait for the club to prepare its case before we carry out a feasibility study."

Arguello's defence

Las Vegas.—Alexis Arguello will defend his World Boxing Council lightweight title against the No 1 contender, Andy Ganigan of the United States, here on April 3. It will be the fourth defence for the Nicaraguan, who took the title from Jim Watt of Scotland in June last year.—Reuter.

MOTOR RALLYING

Audi's spin puts another in lead

Lisbon, March 4. — Michele Mouton, the French woman, driving the revolutionary Audi Quattro, took the lead in the World Championship Rally of Portugal at the close of the second section here today after her team colleague, Hannu Mikkola of Finland, had dropped out after spinning off the road

There was more hard luck for another Finn, Henri Toivonen, the Opel team driver who slipped from second to 20th position

Miss Mouton left her main rival, West Germany's Walter Rohrl, 58 seconds behind. After a puncture in an earlier section Britain's Tony Pond had moved up to fourth

LISBON: Rally of Portugal, second stage, overall standings: 1, M Mouton (France) Audi Quattro, 2 hrs 16.19; 2, W Rohrl (WG) Opel Ascona, 2:17.17; 3, Bjorn Waldegaard (Sweden) Toyota Celica, 2:21.19; 4, A Pond (GB) Datsun Violet, 2:21.19; 5, P Eklund (Sweden) Toyota Celica, 2:22.42; 6, J-L Therier (France) Porsche 911, 2:25.00.—AFP.

ROUND-UP

EQUESTRIANISM

Current Magic helps Abraham's reputation

Current Magic, the 12-year-old bay stallion by Current Coin out of the Autrelle mare Phosphorescence, won the King George V Cup at the National Thoroughbred Stallion Show of the Hunters' Improvement Society at Park Paddocks, Newmarket, yesterday. He received from Her Majesty the Queen, the trophy he won previously in 1979.

Owned by Max Abraham, whose stud of hunter stallions near York is by now the most influential in the country, Current Magic was first exhibited here in 1978 by Graham Lloyd of Hay-on-Wye, to win the Macdonald-Buchanan Cup for horses new to the premium scheme. Mr Lloyd, assisted by Vivian Bishop, Master and Huntsman of the Golden Valley Hounds, had bought the horse, which is endowed with outstandingly good limbs, at the Ascot sales, for £600.

Runner-up for the trophy was Jimmy Snell's Saunter, by Chardottsville out of Padella by St Paddy, the defending champion, who also won the King George V Cup in 1978 and stands near Helston in Cornwall at his owner's stud, one of the most successful in the land. Mr Snell gave up his bakery in the 1960s to devote himself exclusively to premium stallions.

The judges, John Daniell, who farms in the Berkeley country in the Severn Valley, and Major Hellyer from Leicestershire, awarded the Macdonald-Buchanan trophy for the best stallion new to the premium scheme to Louis Massarella's Barley Hill, a bay six-year-old by Simbir out of Pixie Hill by Gold Hill. He had the better of John Rawlings's Liberated, by Busted, bred by the Duchess of Norfolk.

Sidney Smith, who farms in Northamptonshire, finished first and second with Abyssinia and Evening All, with both of whom he had previously won the Macdonald-Buchanan trophy, in the second District class, and Derek Gethin won class 3 with Big Ivor. Mr Massarella and his second victory in class 5 with Bustiki.

The Queen spent the day at the showground. She presented the Henry Tudor Cup for fertility to Max Abrahams for Politico, and the runner-up was Mr Massarella's Rough Lad. The only official who was not presented to Her Majesty was last year's President, Colonel Tony Murray, Master of the Fernie Hounds, who turned his car upside down last week and was unable to be present.

Hockey

Civil Service completed their annual fixtures against the armed forces with a 2—2 draw against the Army at Chiswick yesterday, Sydney Friskin writes. It left the home side with a win, a draw and a defeat, which is an unusual record for a side accustomed in recent years to making a clean sweep of the series.

They came out of a tight corner yesterday with a penalty-stroke conversion which enabled them to level the score, the Army having changed the course of the game with two goals in two minutes just before the interval.

The Army, completing their preparations for the Services championship which starts at Portsmouth on Monday, were best served by Chetwood, a fast and resourceful outside left, a somewhat rare species in modern hockey. The Civil Service defence gave him too much room and when he scored the second goal for the Army he was unmarked.

Everything seemed to be going well for Civil Service who took the lead in the 17th minute from a short corner converted by Dargo who drove the ball into an empty goal.

Wood equalised after picking up a pass from the left by Cox. Chetwood put them in front from a long corner which was hit out by Banham.

Seven minutes after play was resumed the Army were penalised for deliberate obstruction inside the circle. They conceded a penalty stroke which was converted by Sibia. In the last five minutes Civil Service looked more dangerous than they had at any time in the match but could not score.

☐ The disciplinary committee of the Hockey Association have suspended Bal Saini, of Buckinghamshire, for 16 days, following reports on his conduct after a match on January 31 in which Buckinghamshire defeated Worcestershire 2—0 in the county championship. The suspension, effective from last Wednesday, will stop Saini from playing for Buckinghamshire in the semi-final round at Ipswich on March 13.

CIVIL SERVICE: M Wilson; P Giles, C Basey, H Sibia, M Lushman, P King, P Ellis, K Dargo, T Hay, E Vickery (captain), C Barrow.

ARMY: S/Sgt D Tolhurst (RAPC); WO II D F Rutherford (RAPC) sub. Lt D Skinner (16/5 Lancers), Lt Col M W Stott (RE, Captain), 2/Lt P Leighton (1 Green Howards), Sgt F D Rodgers (RAPC), Capt G B Grossmith (RE), Lt M Banham (RA), Lt C Wood (RE), Spr J D Cox (3 Trg Regt.), 2/Lt A Scopes (RE), Capt S Chetwood (RE).

Umpires: B Sunbury (Southern Counties) and S/Ldr R W Shepherd (RAF).

Boxing

The 59th Oxford-Cambridge boxing match takes place this evening (8·0) in Oxford Town Hall. Some may claim it to be the 75th anniversary meeting between the two clubs; the fact is, from 1897 till 1912 there was a combined boxing and fencing club at both places until these sports went their separate ways in 1913. Age apart, the evening promises an international flavour. Oxford team members come from the United States, Zimbabwe, Iran and Australia.

Oxford on their own stamping ground and with five Blues to Cambridge's three, must be considered slight favourites. But last year the match was decided on the last bout and three of the last four matches have been decided by a single match; so prediction is always slightly hazardous.

Oxford's star is Nick Stafford-Deitsch, a lightheavyweight and who will be looking for his fourth victory in the series at the expense of an American, Balthazar, graduate of the University of Virginia. Stafford-Deitsch has lost only one bout—on a split decision—for Oxford out of 14. Oxford's winning Blues from last year include their captain, Snelling (lightwelter), Davies (lightmiddle) and Horne (middle).

OXFORD: Feather, G R G Willoughby (Clifton and Balliol); light, *H Ghafari (London University and Merton); lightwelter, *D M Snelling (Dabenant Foundation GS and St Edmund Hall); welter, R G Daggenhurst (Winchester and New); lightmiddle, *H A Davies (Harrow Weald sixth form college and Keble); middle, *C B Horne (Prince Edward School Zimbabwe and Magdalen); middle, P V Mankowski (University of Chicago and Campion Hall); lightheavy, *N L Stafford-Deitsch (Eton and Oriel); heavy, A J Abbott (Sidney University and Queen's).

CAMBRIDGE: Feather, J Maureneetoo (Kingsbury and Pembroke); light, T V Holliday (Harrow and Magdalene); lightwelter, *R S P Scott (Eton and Trinity); welter, *G J Goodfellow (Harrow and Trinity); lightmiddle, N J Gregson (Lancaster GS and St John's); middle, *B C Stiles (Bablake School and Queen's); middle, J H Henderson (Eton and Pembroke); lightheavy, M P Balthazar (University of Virginia and Churchill); heavy, W H Daniell (Marlborough and Magdalene).

*A Blue.

Cycling

Despite the continuing state of martial law in Poland, it appears that Polish involvement in cycling is to remain the same as in previous years, John Wilcockson writes. Two Polish riders took part in the world cyclo-cross championships two weeks ago, and the Polish Cycling Federation this week accepted an invitation to compete for the first time in the Sealink International race.

John Burns, organizer of the 468-mile race, which takes place from April 15 to 24, is delighted. He had had no contact with the Poles since sending an invitation last November. He said: "I was prepared to leave a place open, but I did not expect a reply."

The Sealink race will be used by Poland as vital preparation for the Peace Race, the season's leading cycling event in Eastern Europe, in which four of the 12 stages will take place in Poland, as planned. These include the seventh stage into Warsaw on May 17.

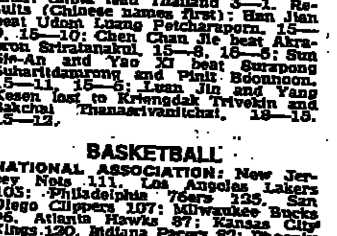
With 18 leading teams due to compete, the Peace Race will be the first important international sports fixture to be hosted by Poland this year. The world cross country championships, which were to be held in Warsaw, have been switched to Rome on March 21.

Athletics

Venissa Head hopes to mark her return to athletics with another shot putt record in the Welsh championships at St Athan later this month, after a frustrating six-month period of injuries

Miss Head, now a member of Bristol AC, was in London yesterday to receive a gold award presented by the Guardian Royal Exchange to athletes who achieve UK national championship records.

FOR THE RECORD



BADMINTON

BANGKOK: Thomas Cup: Asian Zone final: China lead Thailand 3—1. Results (Chinese names first): Han Jian beat Udom Luang Petcharaporn, 15—9, 15—10; Chen Chan Jie beat Akraron Sriratanakul, 15—8, 15—5; Sun Sie-An and Yao Xi beat Surapong Suharitdamrong and Pinit Boonnoon, 15—11, 15—5; Luan Jin and Yang Kesen lost to Kriengdak Trivekin and Sakchai Thanasrivanitchai, 18—15, 15—12.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: New Jersey Nets 111, Los Angeles Lakers 105; Philadelphia 76ers 125, San Diego Clippers 107; Milwaukee Bucks 96, Atlanta Hawks 87; Kansas City Kings 120, Indiana Pacers 82; Phoenix Suns 115, Utah Jazz 102; Seattle Supersonics 136, Cleveland Cavaliers 107.

COMO: European Cup, semi-final round: Men: Squibb Cantu (Italy) 102, Nashua Den Bosch (Netherlands) 84.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: New York Rangers 4, Calgary Flames 2; Washington Capitals 8, St Louis Blues 4; Boston Bruins 3, Pittsburgh Penguins 2; Quebec Nordiques 6, Edmonton Oilers 4; Hartford Whalers 3, Buffalo Sabres 3; Los Angeles Kings 4, Toronto Maple Leafs 1; Minnesota North Stars 6, Detroit Red Wings 4; Winnipeg Jets 4, Chicago Black Hawks 2; Colorado Rockies 3, Vancouver Canucks 2.

TENNIS

LOS ANGELES: Women: Second round: M Jausovec (Yugoslavia) beat B Gadusek, 7—5, 2—6, 6—1; B Potter beat A Kiyomura, 6—2, 6—0; S Hanika (WG) beat J Russell, 6—2, 6—3; B J King beat B Bunge, 4—6, 7—5, 6—1; A Leand beat C Kohde (WG), 7—6, 6—1.

SALISBURY (Maryland): WCT over-35 tournament: M Reissen beat C Graebner 7—6, 6—3; R Taylor (GB) beat E Scott 6—1, 7—6; T Okker (Netherlands) beat R Hewitt (SA), 7—5, 6—2; C Richey beat A Olmedo (Peru), 7—6, 6—3.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

THIRD DIVISION: Southend v Chesterfield.

FOURTH DIVISION: York City v Colchester.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: Sheffield United v Blackburn.

RUGBY UNION: Coventry v Wasps, London University v Welsh Universities (Motspur Park, 2.30).

RUGBY LEAGUE: Second division: Salford v Halifax.

LACROSSE: Women's indoor match: England v England Reserves (Crystal Palace NSC, 8.0).

RACKETS: Queen's weekend (Queen's Club, West Kensington).

REAL TENNIS: Queen's weekend (Queen's Club, West Kensington).

SQUASH RACKETS: ISPA championship (Abbeydale Park Club, Sheffield).

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

European Cup
Quarter-final, First leg
Dyn Kiev (0) 0 A. Villa (0) 0
40,000
Liverpool (0) 1 CSKA Sofia (0) 0
Whelan 37,388
OTHER MATCHES: Anderlecht 2, Red Star Belgrade 1; Universitatea Craiova (Romania) 0, Bayern Munich 2.

Cup Winners' Cup
Quarter-final, First leg
Tottenham (0) 2 Eintracht F (0) 0
Miller, Hazard 38,172
OTHER MATCHES: Legia Warsaw 0, Dynamo Tbilisi 1; Lokomotiv Leipzig 0, Barcelona 3; Standard Liege 2, FC Porto (Portugal) 0.

Uefa Cup
Quarter-final, First leg
Dundee U (2) 2 Radnicki N (0) 0
Narey, Dodds 16,000
OTHER MATCHES: Hamburg 3, Neuchatel Xamax (Switzerland) 2; Real Madrid 3, Kaiserslautern (West Germany) 1; Valencia 2, Göteborg 2.

Fourth division
Blackpool (1) 1 Bradford C (0) 0
Stewart 4,004

Scottish premier division
Celtic (0) 1 Morton (0) 0
McGarvey (pen)

Scottish first division
E Stirling (0) 0 Raith (0) 1
Gibson
Motherwell (0) 1 Dumbarton (1) 1
Carson Brown

Scottish second division
Alloa v Clyde
Postponed
Cow'dnth (2) 2 Meadow'bk (1) 2
Miller, Markie Sprott, Jobson

EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP: France 6, Luxembourg 0.

IRISH LEAGUE: Cup: Distillery 0, Ards 2.

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Telford 3, Weymouth 0.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland: Bedworth 0, Kidderminster 2; Cambridge City 1, Alvechurch 1; Cheltenham 1, Redditch 1; Taunton 0, Bromsgrove 3. Southern: Andover 2, Folkestone 2; Dunstable 3, Hounslow 4.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Bass Cup: semi-final, first leg: Gainsborough 0, Burton 0. League: Mossley 3, Buxton 0; South Liverpool 4, Netherfield 0; Southport 2, Oswestry 2.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Birmingham 1, QPR 0; Crystal Palace 2, Chelsea 1; Reading 3, Southampton 4.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: Blackburn 0, Manchester C 0; Stoke 3, Burnley 0; West Bromwich 0, Everton 1.

MIDLAND LEAGUE: Heanor 0, Ashby 0.

Rugby Union

CLUB MATCHES: Bath 12, Ebbw Vale 14; Coventry 25, Metropolitan Police 6; Guildford and Godalming 10, Surrey University 6; Leicester 17, Royal Navy 12; Llanelli 20, South Wales Police 13; Moseley 22, Birmingham 7; Roundhay 36, Leeds University 0.

Rugby League

FIRST DIVISION: Barrow 0, Widnes 19; Hull 8, Leigh 4; Hull Kingston Rovers 16, Warrington 10; St Helens 14, Featherstone 4.

SECOND DIVISION: Halifax 8, Keighley 7.

Peace with honour on levy rate

By Michael Seely

Temporary peace with honour seemed to be the reaction on all sides to the Home Secretary's decision to increase the rate of betting levy by 12 per cent in the 21st Levy Scheme, which starts in April.

After scrutinising the report compiled by Mr Richard Langdon, the accountant appointed to study bookmakers' accounts, and after also studying submissions from both the Horse Race Betting Levy Board and from the betting industry, Mr William Whitelaw issued the following statement yesterday:

"Even for those bookmakers in the highest category, an increase in the existing levy rate of 11 per cent could be met entirely out of the existing deduction. Bearing this in mind, and having regard to the needs of racing, I have decided that levy rates should be increased by 12 per cent. Mr Langdon estimates that the horse-race betting turnover will increase by 4 per cent in the period of the 21st Levy Scheme. On that assumption the rates of levy which I have determined should produce a yield of about £20 million a year. I am satisfied the bookmakers will be able to make their contributions to the levy at this rate without making any increase in their deductions from the punter."

This estimated figure of £20m represents an increase of £2.4m on last year's figure of £17.6m, which is £4.4m short of the figure asked for by the Levy Board.

However, Lord Plummer, the chairman of the Levy Board, expressed himself as being reasonably satisfied. He said that the increase would alleviate some of the problems of the industry, even though the sum was less than that originally asked for. He thought that the continuing effects of the recession, the revenue lost by the freeze up and the necessity to maintain bookmakers profits at an adequate level all had a bearing on this.

He also said that although some much needed projects to aid the industry might have to be shelved for the time being, he saw no reason why existing commitments should not continue to be met. Lord Plummer concluded by saying that he would be issuing no further statements until he had had time to study the implications with his board.

Ron Pollard, a director of Ladbrokes, said: "We are disappointed that there has been an increase, but feel that the Home Secretary has done his best to balance his books. If the anticipated 4 per cent increase in turnover takes place, we anticipate no problems and will keep our deductions from the punters at their present rate."

Lord Wigg said that he congratulated Mr Langdon and Messrs Spicer and Pegler on an excellent report and finds no reason to disagree with their figures. "I do feel, however, that Mr Langdon may, perhaps, have underestimated the effect of the continuing rise in inflationary costs."

Lord Wigg also felt that the extent of the Levy Board and Jockey Club's needs had to be balanced against the bookmakers' capacity to pay and that was what this report had acknowledged. He still thought, however, that the root of the trouble lay in the exorbitantly high rate of taxation which could only lead to growth in illegal betting.

Lord Wigg concluded by saying that it was high time that the racing industry and bookmakers put their heads together and issued a joint report to the government.

There must be something in what he says. There are 100,000 people employed in the business, 80,000 by the bookmakers and the Tote and 20,000 actively engaged in the running of the sport. Both sides are entirely interdependent. The one could not exist without the other. And considering that the government derived an income of about £200,000 million per annum from the money generated by their activities, they might find a joint committee easier to deal with. For after all, apart from the owners, the punters are the main contributors to the industry.



Border Incident: in action at Newbury after a recurrence of back troubles

Encouraging mission for Cruise Missile

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

The Lambourn trainer Nicky Henderson seems well placed to win the State Express Young Steeplechasers qualifier at Newbury today with Cruise Missile who is owned by his father-in-law, John Thorne.

It is not surprising that Cruise Missile has taken so well to jumping fences because he has it in his blood. Although his dam, Polaris Missile, was good enough to win the National Hunt Steeplechase at Cheltenham in 1966 she has become much more famous as a brood mare thanks to the achievements of her son Sparrow Missile.

In due course, Cruise Missile should prove a valuable addition to the band of stallions standing on his owner's stud in Warwickshire because, unlike the majority of steeplechasers, he is still an entire. Furthermore, his grandsire, Never Bend, is also the grandsire of Mill Reef.

Cruise Missile has won twice at Kempton this season so the fences at Newbury should not be a problem for him. The second of those victories was only a week ago when he proved much too good for Princeton, who had won his two previous races. At his best, Fauloon would be more of a danger than Nickle Moppett who fell in his last race at Ascot.

Border Incident should also be hard to beat in the Arkell Brewery Handicap Steeplechase if he were only half the horse he once was. Sadly, though, he has looked but a shadow of his former self in his last two races. Border Incident has been plagued by back trouble ever since he fell in the Gold Cup two years ago and it was certainly troubling him again at Wincanton eight days ago when John Francome had no option but to pull him up.

However, his trainer, Richard Head, said yesterday that, following another course of physiotherapy, Border Incident is all right again now but to be doubly sure, he intends delaying the final decision about running until after his vet has examined Border Incident this morning.

Palatinate, my selection for the March Hare Handicap Hurdle, will be meeting Carved Opal on 11lb better terms than when he was beaten a head by him at Huntingdon last week.

Both have been entered for the Triumph Hurdle at Cheltenham and so too has Cima who is my selection for the second division of the Tweedledum Novices Hurdle at Haydock today. Indeed, Cima features prominently in the ante post betting for the Triumph, which is regarded as the four-year-old championship.

He has won two of his three races under National Hunt rules and it will not escape the notice of some that he also beat the current Triumph favourite, Royal Vulcan, by a length in a valuable handicap, run over a mile and a half at Epsom last June.

Reid rides Socks Up

John Reid, who has been riding in Australia this winter, will again be first jockey to Fulke Johnson Houghton's Blewbury stable this flat season and one of his first rides will be Socks Up in the Lincoln Handicap.

Johnson Houghton lost his promising colt Walking Beside You earlier this year after a freak accident on the gallops, leaving the stable with only one real Derby hope, Northern Dancer colt Minshaanshu Amad.

The trainer said, "He ran well in Ascot's Royal Lodge Stakes, but was disappointing when sixth to Montekin in the Horris Hill at Newbury. I am more than pleased with his progress, and although I have entered him for the Newmarket and French 2000 guineas, I think he will be more of a Derby horse, as the Rowley Mile could be a little sharp for him."

Johnson Houghton has high hopes too, for the filly Ecstatica, and has entered her for the English, French and Irish classics. Ecstatica, a good runner-up to Dawn Ditty at Salisbury in September, is likely to have her first outing this season in Newbury's Fred Darling Stakes.

Barry aboard Coolishall

Ron Barry, the Northern jockey will have his first Grand National ride for six years when he partners Broderick Munro-Wilson's Coolishall at Aintree next month.

Coolishall, now a 13-year-old, will be making his fifth attempt to win the race in successive years. In 1978, the gelding finished a close fourth to Lucius when ridden by Martin O'Halloran, and the following year, with Tony Webber aboard, he fell at the fourth last.

In 1980, he was ridden by his new trainer, Brod Munro-Wilson, whose stirrup broke at the third fence, causing horse and rider to part company. Last year, Bill Smith was a last-minute replacement for Munro-Wilson, who was hurt in a fall in the Foxhunters, and the combination finished eighth behind Aldaniti.

Munro-Wilson plans to give Coolishall two runs before the big day. He will ride the gelding himself in the Horse and Hound Grand Military Gold cup at Kempton on March 12 and then Ron Barry will take over in the Kencot Handicap Steeplechase at Newbury a week before Aintree.

Newbury

Tote Double: 3.0 and 4.0. Treble 2.30, 3.30 and 4.30.
[Television (BBC 2): 2.30, 3.0, 3.30 and 4.0 races]

2.0 WHATCOMBE HURDLE (Div I; novices: £1,059: 2m 100yd) (13 runners)

102 034-401 FUNNY SPRING (Mrs D Zurcher), G Pritchard-Gordon, 7-12-0 ... S Smith Eccles
104 DO TELL US (B Ellis), Mrs D Oughton, 7-11-7 ... P Rowe
105 HOPSTONE (B Oliver), F Winter, 6-11-7 ... J Francome
106 MALEW (W Kelly), D Wilson, 8-11-7 ... K Caplen 7
107 0-0 ARAMOSS (Mrs D Fletcher), N Gaselee, 5-11-4 ... V McKevitt 7
108 00-0003 CORAL LEISURE (B) (M Jackson), G Balding, 5-11-4 ... B Reilly
109 DOUBLE BASS (Ld Rotherwick), T Forster, 5-11-4 ... H Davies
110 0p0 GATHER NO MOSS (P Griffith), E Beeson, 5-11-4 ... J Akehurst 7
111 LANDED GENT (D Tylden-Wright), B Forsey, 5-11-4 ... B Forsey
113 0d QUAYPLAY (N Cabburn), G Kindersley, 5-11-4 ... N Dunger 7
114 000002 RHYTHM STICK (M Rawlings), M Rawlings, 5-11-4 ... S Jobar
115 000-140 SWEET ENCHANTMENT (L Wareham), B Stevens, 5-11-4 ... C Brown
116 0 VICK THE BUSKER (Mrs H Bare), I Dudgeon, 5-11-4 ... G McCourt

9-4 Funny Spring, 10-3 Coral Leisure, 4 Hopstone, 6 Double Bass, 8 Rhythm Stick, 12 others.

2.30 STATE EXPRESS YOUNG CHASERS (£2,731: 2½m) (11)

202 1-40011 CRUISE MISSILE (M Thorne) N Henderson 6-12-3 ... S Smith Eccles
205 004011 WAS I RIGHT (D) (Sr J O'Connell) J FitzGerald 7-12-0 ... A Webber
206 2-0010 COOLERIN BOY (D) (B Oliver) F Winter 7-11-11 ... B De Haan
209 404213 KALKASHANNDI (Mrs K Underwood) D Morley 6-11-11 ... P Scudamore
214 0041-0f AFRICAN PRINCE (S Embiricos) J Gifford 7-11-7 ... R Champion
216 000300 CELTIC RAMBLER (NPD Ltd) Mrs M Rimell 7-11-7 ... S Morshead
217 001-400 COBBLERS CASTLE (Mrs D Wigan) J Gifford 6-11-7 ... R Rowe
219 0-00100 FAULOON (B) (C Bird III) F Walwyn 7-11-7 ... W Smith
224 0/0-7f3 STORM PRINCE (B) (Mrs A Lacey) I Dudgeon 7-11-7 ... G McCourt
226 210232 VIRGIN SOLDIER (Maj J Rubin) J Old 6-11-7 ... H Davies
228 3111 NICKLE MOPPETT (P Dresher) J Webber 5-11-4 ... Mr P Webber

7-2 Cruise Missile, 4 Nickle Moppett, 5 Was I Right, 13-2 Kalkashanndi, 8 Coolerin Boy, 10 Celtic Rambler, Virgin Soldier, 14 others.

3.0 ARKELL BREWERY CHASE (Handicap: £3,022: 2m 160yd) (4)

302 21p-2pp BORDER INCIDENT (A Warrender) R Head 12-11-7 ... J Francome
306 3/1142-0 HUTTON LAD (Sheikh Khassim) L Kennard 11-10-0 ... A Webber
309 1122p3 WASHINGTON HEIGHTS (Mrs J Morrison) F Walwyn 7-10-0 ... K Mooney
314 1p00-p2 BALMERS COOMBE (Mrs S Kent) Mrs S Kent 10-10-0 ... B De Haan

5-4 Border Incident, 13-8 Washington Heights, 4 Hutton Lad, 10 Balmers Coombe.

3.30 DAILY MIRROR CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS CHAMPIONSHIP HURDLE (ROUND 8) (£2,169: 3m 120yd) (20)

402 00f402 GOING FOR GOLD (B) (S Powell) D Kent 7-11-8 ... J Lovejoy 3
404 000044 FARMER (R Hawker) R Hawker 7-11-7 ... C Bell 3
406 103-000 SIEGE KING (K Clarke) I Dudgeon 9-11-2 ... M Richards
407 101000 RING TIN TIN (A Ford) L Kennard 8-10-13 ... R Dennis 3
408 2-0p410 TANGLE BRIAR (R Wright) P Cundell 7-10-7 ... R Stronge 3
410 304/040 AUGUST MOON (N Holdsworth) N Henderson 7-10-7 ... C Mann
412 /1312a2 INDIANA DARE (Mrs D Cousins) J Jenkins 6-10-7 ... M Harrington
414 242220 MANSTON MARAUDER (Lt-Col E Harries) R Hannon 6-10-7 ... P Corrigan 5
415 040200 TAN TROED (Mrs K Wallace) Mrs K Wallace 9-10-7 ... Jessie Wallace 7
418 01400p GRAND ROSE (C,D) (G Reyes) M Stephens 10-10-7 ... R Milman
420 2-03010 LEADING ARTIST (J Beltrage) N Gaselee 7-10-7 ... V McKevitt
422 00-3p00 CAMON (Mrs E Hutchinson) I Dudgeon 7-10-7 ... M Lynn 5
425 010-00p CIGARILLO (Mrs C Williams) R Turnell 6-10-7 ... A Holder 3
433 011-p04 SPIRIT OF DERWENT (F Clegg) Mrs E Kennard 6-10-7 ... R Muggeridge
434 00-0004 PROMINETTO (Mrs J Hughes) M Delahooke 6-10-7 ... J Davies
436 204/00 KILLEEN (R Phelan) J Fox 7-10-7 ... N Connell-Smith 7
437 00p3-00 GROOVY (B) (A Souch) L Kennard 7-10-7 ... P Nicholls 3
440 1p40/ MR JERRY (T Toghill) M Pipe 7-10-7 ... —
442 0000/00 BABU'S COURT (Miss R de la Torre) J Thorne 7-10-7 ... Kim Giles 7
444 0p0 ELLENDUNE (Miss L Morrish) B Venn 10-10-7 ... C Bourne 3

4 Going For Gold, 5 Indiana Dare, 11-2 Farmer, 7 Prominetto, 8 Tangle Briar, 10 August Moon, 12 Ring Tin Tin, Grand Rose, 14 Tan Troed, 20 others.

4.0 MARCH HARE HURDLE (4-y-o handicap: £2,607: 2m 100yd) (9)

504 22111 CYBRANDIAN (I Bray) M H Easterby 11-11 (6 ex) ... T Easterby
505 4331 CARVED OPAL (Mrs G Abecassis) F Winter 11-11 (8 ex) ... J Francome
506 240122 PALATINATE (Capt J Macdonald-Buchanan) D Nicholson 11-7 ... P Scudamore
507 02134 COAL BUNKER (B Bell) R Hannon 11-7 ... Steve Knight
508 341314 BOLD ILLUSION (W Donohue) A W Jones 11-6 ... Miss D Jones 7
509 02223 VELESO (T Forde) J King 11-3 ... C Candy
513 00432 THE IRISH RHINE (D Wilson) D Wilson 11-1 ... M Coyle 4
517 033 NEPCOTE (J Horgan) R Hannon 10-8 ... A Turnell
519 320044 MARINE (S Freedman) G Balding 10-5 ... Mr C Freedman 7

11-4 Cybrandian, 3 Carved Opal, 7-2 Palatinate, 5 The Irish Rhine, 10 Bold Illusion, 12 Veleso, 16 others.

4.30 WHATCOMBE HURDLE (Div II: novices: £1,103: 2m 100yd) (13)

603 33021 STOWELL GROVE (Lady Vestey) D Nicholson 5-11-11 ... P Scudamore
606 3-0f000 HILL GREEN (B McGrath) G Balding 6-11-7 ... B Reilly
607 0 LORENZO LOO (Miss H Day) Miss H Day 6-11-7 ... Mr T Houlbrooke 4
608 p-30 OEBIR CELTICE (B) (R Barton) R Barton 6-11-7 ... G McCourt
609 400-300 RAGA (B Gibb) J Clark 6-11-7 ... A Webb
611 0p0-000 CAPE MANDY (A T Smith) H T Smith 5-11-4 ... Miss Alison Dare 7
613 33 COUPLINGS (Torsiflex Ltd) F Winter 5-11-4 ... J Francome
614 0 HARDLY TIME (Maj J Urquhart) R Armytage 5-11-4 ... A Webber
615 0 INCHGOWER (T Prince) W Wightman 5-11-4 ... M Reeves 7
618 00 LAMPSTONE (R Barrs) H Willis 5-11-4 ... A Madgwick 7
619 003 ON TRUST (H Joel) R Turnell 5-11-4 ... E Waite 4
621 00 RUSHOWEN (B Dukes) Mrs B Dukes 5-11-4 ... Mr P Dukes 7
622 SIMON LEGREE (Mrs S Embiricos) J Gifford 6-11-4 ... R Champion

5-2 Stowell Grove, 3 Couplings, 9-2 Raga, 11-2 Simon Legree, 8 Hardly Time, 12 others.

5.0 WHATCOMBE HURDLE (Div III: novices: £1,103: 2m 100yd) (12)

1 0-04121 HASTY STORM (Mrs G Brazier) F Winter 6-12-4 ... J Francome
3 122032 BROADHEATH (Mrs S Tainton) D Nicholson 5-11-11 ... P Scudamore
5 0p0p42 BROGUE (K Higson) A Moore 6-11-7 ... G Moore
8 20- JUST ONCE MORE (G Sloan) J Gifford 6-11-7 ... R Rowe
9 032/0 PAPAL KNIGHT (L Fuller) J Gifford 6-11-7 ... R Champion
14 a0000 CENTREBANK (H Joel) R Turnell 5-11-4 ... A Turnell
15 002 DO OR DIE (A Morton) P Bailey 5-11-4 ... R Linley
17 000 GLASGOW CENTRAL (W Morgan) W Morgan 5-11-4 ... —
19 HIGHLAND LINE (Queen Mother) F Walwyn 5-11-4 ... W Smith
21 RED CAP (Miss E Aldous) J Scallan 5-11-4 ... B R Davies
22 ROYSCRIPT (G Hubby) P Pritchard 5-11-4 ... Mr J Pritchard
23 30003- WHISPER GENTLY (Major L Sward) N Henderson 5-11-4 ... Maj L Sward

2 Hasty Storm, 3 Broadheath, 5 Brogue, 13-2 Do Or Die, 8 Highland Line, 12 Just Once More, 16 others.

Newbury Selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
2.0 Funny Spring 2.30 Cruise Missile 3.0 Border Incident 3.30 Farmer 4.0 Palatinate 4.30 On Trust 5.0 Hasty Storm.

Haydock Park Selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
1.45 Canio 2.15 Faldor 2.45 Compton Lad 3.15 Western Man 3.45 Why So 4.15 Little Frenchman 4.45 Cima.

Sicilian Gold keeps Chapman record intact

Sicilian Gold, a 50-1 chance, snatched a last-stride victory inthe Border Opportunity Selling Handicap Hurdle at Ludlow yesterday to maintain a 100 per cent record in sellers on the course for the Market Harborough trainer, Michael Chapman. Chapman has had three runners in sellers at Ludlow, and they have all won.

Sicilian Gold was bought by Chapman for 400 guineas from Bill Clay 12 months ago, and ironically, it was one of Clay's horses, Gambling Wren, who was beaten in the photo finish.

Polarita, despite diving sharply to the right on the run in, was an easy two-and-a-half-lengths winner from Anteres in the Stokesay Stayers' Mares Handicap Hurdle.

The winner, backed from 14-1 to 10-1, is trained on the Isle of Wight by Alan Aylett, who said "It's a 350-mile round trip to this course, but it was well worthwhile.

Ludlow results

Going: Good to soft

1.45 (1.48) BORDER OPPORTUNITY HURDLE (Selling handicap: £591: 2m)
SICILIAN GOLD, ch g, by Tin God — Sicilian Bel (K McCourt) 5-10-7 G Charles-Jones (50-1) 1
Gambling Wren ... Diane Clay (5-1) 2
Pauw ... R Millman (5-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £14.32; places, 52p, 11p, 19p, 26p. Dual F: £19.09. CSF: £25.28. Tricast: £136.26. M Chapman, at Market Harborough. Sht hd, 12. Cold Blood 9-2 fav. Meleia (11-2) 4th. 18 ran.

2.15 (2.16) STOKESAY STAYERS HURDLE (Mares handicap: £1,201: 3m 1f)
POLARITA, b m, by Arctic Kanda — Mariquita (A Aylett) 9-10-1 G Jones (10-1) 1
Anteres ... R Muggeridge (16-1) 2
Bellino ... A Coogan (9-2) 3
TOTE: Win, 53p; places, 11p, £1.25, 17p, £1.47. Dual F: winner or second with any other horse 22p. CSF: £15.55. Tricast: £74.87. A Aylett, in the Isle of Wight. 1l, 1½l. July the Fourth 4-1 fav. Park Lass (50-1) 4th. 18 ran. NR: Sirenkland Cardo Ann.

2.45 (2.46) BROMFIELD CHASE (6-y-o Novices: £788: 2m)
PIRATE SON, br g, by Pieces of Eight — Blind Date (P Hampson) 11-12 S Morshead (7-4 fav) 1
Coney Glen ... E Woods (33-1) 2
Oxford Lane ... R Linley (9-2) 3
TOTE: Win, 17p; places, 10p, 87p, 13p. Dual F: £7.21. CSF: £5.75. Mrs M Rimell, at Kinnersley. 7l, 30l. Co Member (6-1) 4th. 9 ran. NR: Hanechow.

3.15 (3.17) FORBRA GOLD CUP CHASE (Handicap: £1,595: 3m)
VERY LIGHT, b h, by Rose Rocket — Queen of Ariel (Lord Chelsea) 8-10-8 H Davies (5-1) 1
Jackstones ... R Dickin (50-1) 2
Lewis Homes ... S Morshead (7-2 fav) 3
TOTE: Win, 57p; places, 18p, 91p, 20p, 22p. Dual F: winner or 2nd with any other, 23p. CSF: £23.41. Tricast: £91.37. T Forster, at Wantage. 5l, 1l. Coolafancy (20-1) 4th. 19 ran.

3.45 (3.47) CORVEDALE HURDLE (Div I: 4-y-o novices: £414: 2m)
RAPID LAD, b c, by Rapid River — Seacons (S Borsberry) 10-10 A Webb (15-2) 1
Jupiter Express ... P Blacker (5-1) 2
Music City ... G Davies (10-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.12; places, 28p, 18p, 11p. Dual F: £3.25. CSF: £4 48. J Spearing, at Alcester. Hd, sh hd. Cornish Granite (10-11 fav) 4th. 16 ran. NR: Peter Anthony, Atlanta Lady.

4.15 (4.17) ALDON CHASE (Handicap: £1,373: 2¾m)
MASTER MELODY, bl g, by Highland Melody — Briarstone (W Hackett) 11-10-6 M Bastard (7-2 fav) 1
Pizza ... R Linley (14-1) 2
Cottage Rhythm ... P Scudamore (6-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 31p; places, 19p, 63p, 18p. Dual F: 98p. CSF: £5.76. Tricast: £27.82. ¾l, 10l. W Hackett, at Ratcliffe on the Wreake. Hardy Glen (6-1) 4th. 15 ran.

4.45 (4.48) CORVEDALE HURDLE (Div II: 4-y-o novices: £414: 2m)
ONLY A SHANTY, ch g, by Busted — The Bungalow (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin) 10-10 J Francome (100-30 fav) 1
Fitzgayle ... W Smith (9-2) 2
Wing Velvet ... A O'Hagan (20-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 38p; places, 13p, 33p, 24p. Dual F: £1.04. CSF: £2.01. L Kennard, at Taunton. ¾l, 10l. Star of Salford (7-2) 4th. 18 ran.
PLACEPOT: £66.05.

Haydock Park

Tote Double: 2.45 and 3.45. Treble: 2.15, 3.15 and 4.15

1.45 TWEEDLEDUM HURDLE (Div 1: novices: £1,052: 2m) (15 runners)

2 KARMALI (D) (Mrs C Smith) Mrs M Rimell 6-11-13 ... E Woods
6 00 BRIGADIER GREEN (E Taylor) F Gibson 5-11-6 ... K Whyte
7 0 CANIO (C Kilroy) J Old 5-11-6 ... Mr A J Wilson
9 f/p00up GEORGE AGAIN (Mrs D Richards) D Richards 7-11-6 ... Mr D Browne 4
10 34 GREAT HEAD BOY (J Horrocks) R Fisher 5-11-6 ... Mr J Duggan 7
11 0000/0d GREY ELF (Mrs E Treasure) J Edwards 7-11-6 ... P Blacker
12 030000 HARFORD (Monmore Auto Spares) W Clay 5-11-6 ... N Clay
13 0p-0000 HIGHLAND LINNET (Miss S Ford) B Richmond 5-11-6 ... P Tuck
15 C300 LITTLE NEWMARKET (Lady Hall-Davis) Mrs A Cousins 7-11-6 ... P Barry
20 QUALITY VENUE (Mrs P Rigby) Mrs P Rigby 7-11-6 ... R Crank
25 0000 SONNY GOLD (J Rushworth) K Stone 4-10-7 ... C Tinkler
26 00 CASAL ROYALE (M Higgins) D McCain 4-10-7 ... C Pimlott
27 0 EDDIE THE SNAKE (Mrs U Fantasia) G Lockerbie 4-10-7 ... N Balmer
28 300 EDWARD LADELL (J Millington) J Millington 4-10-7 ... Mr P Millington 4
30 LAVENHAM BLUE (A Griffiths) J Wilson 4-10-7 ... J Brough 7

5-4 Karmali, 11-4 Canio, 5 Great Head Boy, 10 Grey Elf, 16 Harford, 20 others.

2.15 ALICE HURDLE (Selling handicap: £918: 2½m) (15)

2 10-0100 PARKSTONE QUAY (D) (R Botterill) R Woodhouse 5-11-9 ... P Tuck
3 0000-00 BE FRIENDLY TOO (C) (Leisure Racing Ltd) R Fisher 5-11-3 ... K Teelan 7
4 01-0011 FALDOR (B) (J Mitchell) Mrs A Cousins 5-11-0 ... P Barry
5 0u4024 MICHAELMAS DAISY (T Bracewell) J Wilson 5-10-10 ... Mr D Browne 4
6 100-000 TOM HORN (CB) (R Goodfellow) J Berry 5-10-9 ... M Berry 7
7 0300-00 FYGHANE (Mrs C Fairbairn) J Edwards 5-10-8 ... P Blacker
8 400-020 NAHANE (A Eaton) P Bevan 5-10-5 ... T Wall 4
9 203310 MAURICE'S TIP (D Motts) J Jenkins 4-10-4 ... S Smith Eccles
10 002203 NUNSWALK (R Williams) J Bradley 5-10-4 ... P Liddicoat 7
11 200012 GO LISSAVA (F Barton) F Barton 4-10-4 ... Mr M Low 7
13 0p4 ANDREA'S PET (F Yardley) F Yardley 4-10-1 ... C Smith
14 044013 LITTLE TYRANT (C Francis) B Richmond 5-10-0 ... J O'Neill
15 0000 DEEP DIG (Joseph Pickavance 'Civil Eng' Ltd) Mrs M Nesbitt 4-10-0 ... D Atkins
16 f02004 EDWARD'S CORNER (E Hartley) T Barnes 4-10-0 ... M Barnes
19 p-p0pfp RUTHELEN (D Chapman) D Chapman 5-10-0 ... Mr T Walford

7-4 Faldor, 3 Maurice's Tip, 5 Little Tyrant, 7 Go Lissava, Nunswalk, 10 others.

2.45 HATTONS HUNTER CHASE (LAND-ROVER CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFIER) (Amateurs: £798: 3m) (6)

1 1111-1 COMPTON LAD (CD) (R McAlpine) M Dickinson 9-12-7 ... D Browne 4
2 110-000 WAGGONERS WALK (D) (G Mason) Miss C Mason 13-12-7 ... A Fowler
4 /40-300 ARCTIC HERO (B) (A Wallace) A Wallace 10-11-7 ... Miss L Wallace 7
5 40004-0 CINCHID (G Fairbairn) G Fairbairn 11-11-7 ... W Lamarque 7
6 1600p-0 RUBSTIC (D) (J Douglas) S Leadbetter 13-11-7 ... J-M Dun 7
8 444a0p/ THE FRODDLER (A Swinbank) A Swinbank 10-11-7 ... D Kinsella 7

Evens Compton Lad, 5-2 Waggoners Walk, 7 Rubstic, 12 Arctic Hero, 14 Cinchid, 16 The Froddler.

3.15 LEWIS CARROLL HURDLE (handicap: £1,587: 2m) (24)

1 1000-11 WESTERN MAN (D) (Mrs C Shipley) J FitzGerald 7-12-1 (6 ex) ... Mr D Browne 4
2 f-113 WORTHY HEIRESS (E Robson) E Robson 7-12-0 ... C Pimlott
3 312142 SKEHEENS (D) (Mrs L Simpson) J Edwards 7-11-11 ... P Blacker
6 42p/1-0 RHEINFORD (F E Allsop 'Ledbury' Ltd) J Old 6-11-4 ... Mr A J Wilson
7 130023 ROYAL COMMOTION (D) (Mrs P Adeane) Mrs W Sykes 9-11-3 ... R Barry
8 00-4020 BIG BRYMA (R Mason) R Woodhouse 6-11-3 ... C Grant
10 0/0002- ROUGH-CAST (D,B) (H F Harvey) B Cambidge 7-11-0 ... —
11 04131-0 MIZZENHEAD (D) (R Sangster) M W Easterby 7-11-0 ... D Goulding
12 0-44u20 STATE COUNCELLOR (D,B) (F Soudavar) P Calver 6-11-0 ... C Tinkler
13 21-000 MILLFIELD LAD (D) (E Peary) M H Easterby 5-10-13 ... J O'Neill
15 000000 GALA LAD (C,D) (Independent Twine Co) N Bycroft 8-10-12 ... D Wilkinson
16 331-030 HYDE (C) (Hyde Industrial Holdings) M W Easterby 6-10-12 ... P Tuck
19 00100-0 GLEN MOY (D,B) (J Lemon) D Ringer 7-10-11 ... S McNeill
25 00-10 FAIR CITY (D) (G Bell) F Gibson 5-10-6 ... K Whyte
26 240p/p0 SPACE SPECIAL (D) (Mrs N Gittins) H Gittins 7-10-6 ... Miss S Arkell 7
28 20004p ELSELL (D) (J Smith) M Eckley 7-10-5 ... A O'Hagan 7
29 02210-0 STAR OF TYCOON (D) (Dr J Robinson) N Crump 7-10-5 ... Mr H J Gill 4
30 330000 BLEATHWOOD (R Jennaway) K White 6-10-5 ... C Smith
31 240304 ESSEX (F Markland) D McCain 7-10-4 ... N Doughty
33 0-0p000 PRINCELY CHIEF (D) (Mrs D Smith) A A Smith 10-10-2 ... J Burke
34 4-00002 JOSMOLL (D) (R Taylor) C Mackenzie 5-10-2 ... M Bastard
35 10p0/0p GOLLYNO (D) (B Davies) I Wardle 5-10-2 ... M Williams
36 0p000-0 MICAS AWAY (D) (W Spencer) D McCain 6-10-0 ... R Lamb
38 04/002- BELCRAIG (D) (Ld Kilmany) Ld Kilmany 7-10-0 ... G Holmes

5-2 Royal Commotion, 3 Western Man, 5 Worthy Heiress, 7 Skeheens, 10 Millfield Lad, 12 Mizzenhead, 16 Rheinford, Hyde, 20 others.

3.45 WHITE RABBIT CHASE (Handicap: £2,816: 2m) (6)

2 r301r0 DUC DE BOLEBEC (CD,B) (C Marler) G Fairbairn 9-11-7 ... —
3 0-31000 PRETTY HOPEFUL (D) (Mrs M Ash) S Mellor 7-11-4 ... P Blacker
5 040412 WHY SO (D) (F Soudavar) G Richards 9-10-6 ... N Doughty
8 10/0-344 BAMBER'S SECURITY (D) (Mrs W Sykes) Mrs W Sykes 10-10-2 ... —
9 f-2200p BLACKWATER BRIDGE (D McCain) D McCain 10-10-1 ... R Lamb
11 2133p0 ROMAN KING (D,B) (F Watson) F Watson 11-10-0 ... D Dutton 4

11-8 Why So, 3 Duc De Bolebec, 9-2 Bamber's Security, 8 Pretty Hopeful, 12 Blackwater Bridge, 14 Roman King.

4.15 WALRUS HURDLE (Handicap: £1,528: 2¾m) (20)

1 013380 TRU MARC (C) (Cold Shield Windows) Mrs M Rimell 6-12-0 ... Mr A Sharpe 7
2 11/224f PENWOOD (J Archer) N Hall 7-11-8 ... P Carvill
3 216201 LITTLE FRENCHMAN (E Robson) E Robson 6-11-7 (5 ex) ... C Pimlott
6 002000 DONNISON (R Collins) M Tate 11-11-4 ... S Keightley 4
7 3030p0 MAN ON THE RUN (M Charmon) J Baker 7-10-11 ... John Williams
9 4/01-000 BREEZE WAGON (CD) (Mrs W Sykes) Mrs W Sykes 9-10-11 ... R Barry
10 040000 KILROY MANOR (Mrs M Shawcross) R Fisher 6-10-10 ... J O'Neill
12 121010 THREE BARS (Brian Ingamells Ltd) J Harris 7-10-7 ... J A Harris 4
13 200-0r0 REGAL TUDOR (J Pringle) G Lockerbie 8-10-6 ... C Hawkins
14 022000 CITADEL ROC (Miss R Dudley) J Bradley 7-10-5 ... G Davies 4
17 030-123 BROCK HILL (M Low) G H Price 6-10-2 ... Mr M Low 7
19 0-04000 DINGBAT (A Boyce) S Wright 6-10-0 ... A O'Hagan 7
20 00001p PRETTY BOY FLOYD (D) (P Murphy) F Watson 9-10-0 ... A Stringer 4
21 400-p0p BATTUE (Miss M de Quincey) W Jenks 7-10-0 ... R F Davies
23 124f-p0 HOPTON (J Clynick) J Harris 7-10-0 ... C Grant
24 040000 GRECIAN FIGHTER (B) (Mrs J Hall) B Richmond 10-10-0 ... P Tuck
25 0/140p-0 TOUGH DEBATE (T Sage) J Old 7-10-0 ... P Barton
26 p3ufuf GILL BECK (B) (G Smith) G Lockerbie 8-10-0 ... N Balmer
27 0p00-p0 CASPIUS (Mrs J Fraser) Mrs J Fraser 8-10-0 ... —
28 b0-0000 TELESTAR (B) (D Clowes) W Clay 8-10-0 ... M Elliott 4

11-4 Brock Hill, 4 Tru Mar, 5 Little Frenchman, 15-2 Man On The Run, 8 Breeze Wagon, 10 Donnison, Penwood, 14 others.

4.45 TWEEDLEDUM HURDLE (Div II: novices: £1,028: 2m) (13)

1 3014u BALLYDURROW (D) (N Rogers) R Fisher 5-11-13 ... K Teelan 7
2 121 CIMA (D) (R Lambourne) J Old 4-11-7 ... Mr A J Wilson
3 ANDREW MARK (D Beresford) J Wilson 5-11-6 ... Mrs G Rees 4
7 0 KEYSTONE KING (Wilkins & Wilkinson) S Wiles 6-11-6 ... G Graham
8 f40403 KING APPOLLO (P Pfitzner) G Fairbairn 8-11-6 ... C Grant
12 0 MICKEY TIM (J Baker) J Baker 5-11-6 ... John Williams
13 20242-2 MIRTHFUL (E Barber) W Elsey 5-11-6 ... A Flint
15 000p0/ MON BEAUX (Mrs J Yardley) F Yardley 8-11-6 ... C Smith
17 0 SMACKOVER (G Roberts) B McMahon 7-11-6 ... P Blacker
19 005000- VIRIDIAN (R Lloyd) W Whiston 5-11-6 ... R F Davies
22 001200 TORREMODO (D) (Mrs I Anderton) A W Jones 4-11-0 ... P Caldwell 7
25 0404 FLIGHTY FRIEND (R Botterill) R Woodhouse 4-10-7 ... P Tuck
26 0 KELPIE (W Carrick) G Richards 4-10-7 ... N Doughty

4-6 Cima, 4 Mirthful, 11-2 Ballydurrow, 10 Smackover, 16 Torremodo, 20 others.

Motoring by Peter Waymark

The Ambassador's credentials

BL's Princess saloon is relaunched today as the Austin Ambassador, the change of name being justified by a substantially revised bodyshell which includes a tailgate, a new twin carburettor engine, better fuel consumption, improved suspension and 12,000 mile service intervals.

BL has spent £19m on development work and manufacturing facilities for the Ambassador and set a sales target of around 30,000 a year. The best years for the Princess were 1976 and 1979, when more than 31,000 were sold, but since then sales have fallen away badly and the 1981 total was only 15,000.

This has been a difficult car to place in the market. Its overall length of nearly 15 feet suggests duplication with the bottom end of the Rover range. BL is naturally anxious to avoid such a comparison and claims that the Ambassador's main rivals will be medium cars, such as the Ford Cortina and Vauxhall Cavalier.

Certainly the prices of the Ambassador have been fixed with such models in mind. There are five versions, starting with the 1700L at £5,105, which is the same as the 1600L Cortina and £50 cheaper than the equivalent Cavalier. The top of the range version is the Vanden Plas, which has a sun roof, alloy wheels and stereo radio cassette unit and sells at £7,765; it lines up against the 2300 Cortina Ghia.

The general shape of the car, with its once fashionable wedge, is much the same as before but apart from the front door skins all the metal is new. The addition of the rear door is the most important body change and the only surprise, given the styling of the car, is that it was not fitted from the start

The tailgate confers several advantages: tranforming the Princess's wretchedly small boot opening; ensuring that more usable luggage space is available; and improving the appearance of the car. As usual with the hatchback design, the rear seat can be folded down to more than treble the load area, from 17 cubic feet to 55.

Space inside the car is unchanged which means that it is still large. Few other models can boast so much head and legroom in the back, which will adequately take three adults. Visibility and appearance are both enhanced by the addition of rear quarter windows, and there is a squarer and cleaner front end with an integral air dam.

Mechanically, the chief innovation is the 100 bhp twin carburettor version of the four-cylinder, two litre O Series engine. It replaces the 2200 six-cylinder E Series, which will no longer be made (though the 1750 variant is being further developed in readiness for the new LM10 medium car). The single carburettor 2000 and 1700 are carried forward from the Princess as the other engine options.

The twin carburettor betters the 2200 on fuel consumption and is also a little quicker. The official figures are 24.4 mpg (as against 22.1) on the urban cycle, 40.9 mpg (34.0) at 56 mph and 30.1 mpg (27.0) at 75 mph. Thanks in part to higher gear ratios, the other two engines give improved economy at steady speeds, but are thirstier in town.

Replacing the Princess: the five-door Ambassador

Fuel consumption is only one element in running costs and the Ambassador joins the Metro and revised Rover in going to 12,000 mile service intervals. Routine servicing times are reduced as well, so that according to BL, over 50,000 miles or four years the Ambassador will cost £255 and the equivalent Cortina £313. The car is the first from a British mass producer to have sealed-for-life batteries, which need neither cleaning nor topping up.

I have driven, briefly, the twin carb and 1700 versions of the Ambassador and, curiously, the smaller engined car was smoother and quieter. Around 70 mph the two litre developed an unpleasant boom and was generally less refined than a top model should be. I also preferred the manual steering of the 1700 to the power-assisted system standard on the two top versions which seemed over-servoed and lacking in feel.

The Princess range was not noted for performance and though acceleration times have been cut a little, the Ambassador is no flier, either. The 1700 is sluggish in comparison with the 1.6 Cavalier and the twin carb no better than average for its class. The Cavalier is also more economical. The Ambassador comes out well against the Cortina, though the latter is being replaced in the autumn.

Ride quality shows a distinct improvement. The Princess was a softly comfortable car but prone to wallow and not always good at soaking up the bumps. The Ambassador is no less comfortable but feels tighter and is smoother over rough surfaces. The seats have been reshaped without compromising their generous padding.

Renault debut

The argument about whether motorists prefer their cars to have boots or tailgates will be revived next week with the arrival in Britain of the Renault 9. It is a three-box saloon which will compete in the small medium sector of the market, where Renault is already represented by the 14 hatchback; and where most other manufacturers have adopted the hatchback solution.

As a saloon, in fact, the 9 will have few modern rivals. The biggest sellers in this class in 1981 were the Vauxhall Chevette, Austin Allegro and Datsun Sunny. The Chevette is a nine-year-old design and the Allegro ceases production this month. The Triumph Acclaim is another oldish car under the skin and the Volkswagen Jetta, which is modern, has sold disappointingly.

In face of such evidence, Renault still believes that the conventional saloon is what most customers want. Otherwise it would not be planning to make three times as many 9s as 14s. Indeed, the new car will account for around a quarter of total Renault production.

Conservatively styled, the 9 has two engines, 1108 cc and 1397 cc, which are both familiar from other Renault models. But they have new cylinder heads and are used for the first time in a transverse layout. The transmissions, four and five-speed manual boxes and an automatic, are new and the suspension is all-independent.

Inside the car the main novelties are provided by the front seats. They use closely spaced runners which allow back seat passengers to slide their feet forward underneath; and the whole seat tilts, so that the driver can shift to a more comfortable position and the passenger lean back and go to sleep.

On fuel consumption, the 9 can claim to be the best in its class. Average returns, based on the official test figures, are between 41 and 43 mpg for the manual version and nearly 38 for the automatic. This excellent economy has, to some extent, been achieved at the expense of performance and the 1108 cc engine takes a very leisurely 21 seconds to reach 60 mph from rest.

Since British motorists tend to be suspicious of flamboyant designs, the 9 could have wide appeal. It rides well, but with much less body roll than on some Renault models, and the new gearboxes are first class. Space in the back is not over-generous, however, and the ventilation system lacks power. Prices are from £4,100 for the 1108cc base model to £5,688 for the top of the range TSE.

New Peugeot estate

Another new French car which will be on sale in Britain this month is the Peugeot 505 Estate. Its predecessor, the 504, was one of the best big estates even if it was more than ten years old, and the 505 promises the same outstanding combination of space and comfort.

Claimed to be the biggest load carrier in its class, which includes the Ford Granada and Volvo 265, the 505 is available in 1971cc petrol and 2498cc diesel versions. It is based on the saloon, but with a longer wheelbase and a rigid rear axle in place of independent suspension.

The family version, with its three rows of seats taking up to eight people, has been included in the new range and the second row splits two thirds/one third to give extra combinations of passengers and luggage. Fuel consumption should be around 25 to 30 mpg (better on the diesel) and prices are from £7,200 to £9,095.

Car Buyer's Guide

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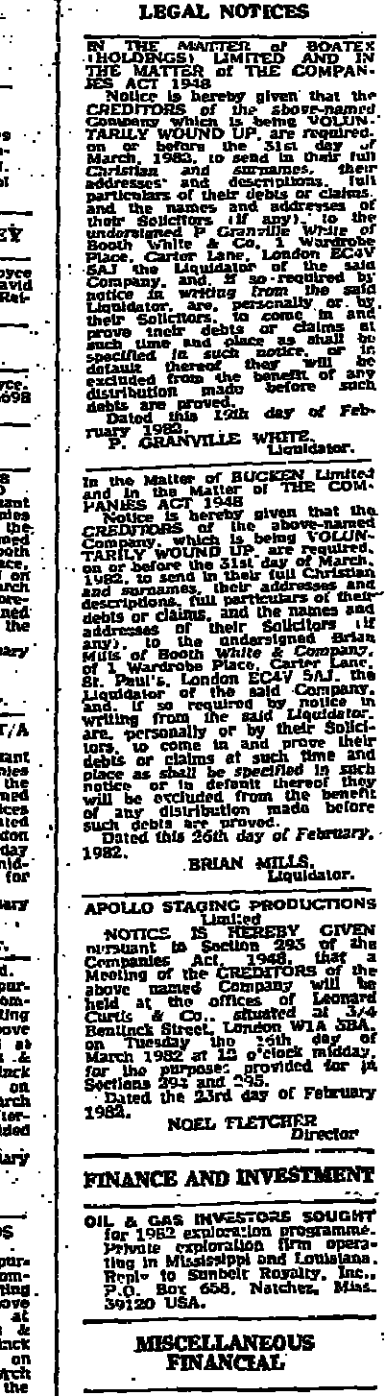
LEGAL NOTICES

THE COMPANIES ACT 1948
RONDELL CAMERAS LIMITED
Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 293 of the Companies Act 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above-named Company will be held at Booth White & Co., 1 Wardrobe Place, Carter Lane, London EC4V 5AJ on Monday, the 22nd day of March 1982, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purposes mentioned in sections 294 and 295 of the said Act.
Dated this 26th day of February 1982.
By Order of the Board.
ROGER RONDELL, Secretary.

KNIGHTVILLE Limited, T/A DANIEL MYLES
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., situated at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Tuesday the 9th day of March 1982 at 12 o'clock midday, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.
Dated the 22nd day of February 1982.
R FANE, Director.

PILGRIMS WINE BAR Limited.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act 1948, that a Meeting of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., situated at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Thursday the 11th day of March 1982 at 2.30 o'clock in the afternoon, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.
Dated the 23rd day of February 1982.
J. D. GRAHAM DUNCAN, Director.

HARINGAY SEWING THREADS Limited.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a Meeting of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co. situated at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Wednesday the 10th day of March 1982 at 12 o'clock midday for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.
Dated the 23rd day of February 1982.
M. STEINER, Director.



LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE MATTER of BOATEX (HOLDINGS) LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948
Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company which is being VOLUNTARILY WOUND UP, are required, on or before the 31st day of March, 1982, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned P Granville White of Booth White & Co., 1 Wardrobe Place, Carter Lane, London EC4V 5AJ the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated this 19th day of February 1982.
P. GRANVILLE WHITE, Liquidator.

In the Matter of BUCKEN Limited and in the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948
Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company, which is being VOLUNTARILY WOUND UP, are required, on or before the 31st day of March, 1982, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Brian Mills of Booth White & Company, of 1 Wardrobe Place, Carter Lane, St. Paul's, London EC4V 5AJ, the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated this 26th day of February, 1982.
BRIAN MILLS, Liquidator.

APOLLO STAGING PRODUCTIONS Limited
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a Meeting of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., situated at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA, on Tuesday the 16th day of March 1982 at 12 o'clock midday, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.
Dated the 23rd day of February 1982.
NOEL FLETCHER, Director

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مكتبة الاهل

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.40 Open University: Eileen Barker Meets the Moonies; 7.05 Ontario; 7.30 History of Maths; 9.00 For Schools, Colleges: Biology: Play Tennis (9.25); Look and Read (9.52); Religious, moral education (10.15); Exploring Science (10.38); Hyn o Fyd (11.00); Talkabout (11.22); Going to Work (11.40); Plants in Action (12.05); 12.30 News After Noon; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Includes Peter Seabrook's weekly gardening item, and the Living with Leisure item (how to make the best use of your space time, if any). 1.45 Bagpuss: 2.02 For Schools, Colleges: Scene (After the Goldrush) and, at 2.35, A Good Job with Prospects (the insurers); 3.00 Closedown; 3.20 Pobol y Cwm (for Welsh viewers); 3.55 Play School: Mary Dawson's story Scarecrow Scallywag.

4.20 Captain Caveman: cartoon: 4.30 *Jackanory: Bernard Holley reads the final* part of Joan Eadington's Jonny Briggs and the Giant Gave:

4.45 Finders Keepers: Battleships game, between Colneis County Junior School and Harestock County Junior School. The referee is Richard Stilgoe.

5.10 Grange Hill: Final episode. The end of term examination; 5.35 Ivor the Engine (r).

5.40 News: With Richard Baker. 6.00 South East at Six; 6.22 Nationwide. Includes the first in a series of films about the working of the House of Lords. Peers are interviewed (See Choice.) 6.45 Sportswide, *with Desmond* Lynam.

7.00 Film: Mister Moses (1965) Wildlife adventure drama, shot in the Amboseli game reserve in Kenya. Robert Mitchum plays the quack doctor whose aid is enlisted by some *villagers* when they learn that their village is to be flooded. He helps to lead their animals to safety. Co-starring Carroll Baker and Ian Bannen.

8.50 Points of View: Barry Took comments on viewers' praise and scorn.

9.00 News: The reader is John Simpson. Also the week's weather prospects.

9.25 McClain's Law: *Crime thriller series,* with James Arness and Marshall Colt as the two police chums. Tonight: a rapist is freed *thanks to a smart lawyer, and McClain* (Arness) finds himself facing a charge of brutality.

10.15 The Ian Wooldridge Interview: The journalist and broadcaster talks to Jeffrey Archer whose business life crumbled all round him seven years ago. Now, this former MP is a writer of best-selling books.

10.45 *News headlines. And weather forecast.*

11.50 The Best in the Ballroom: The presentation of the Carl-Alan Awards at the London Lyceum. Demonstrations by some of the world's leading dancers. Ray Moore is the MC, and the entertainment is provided by jazz dancers Jane Darling, Andy Norman and Bill Drysdale; and the Tweets.

11.25 Film: Dan Candy's Law (1973) Canadian Mounted Police drama, with Donald Sutherland as the sergeant hunting for the *Indian who killed his friend. Co-starring* Kevin McCarthy, Francis Rachette. Ends at 1.00 am.

BBC 2

6.40 Open University. Today's subjects are Life on Seashores (at 6.40); Ecology (7.05) and Statistics: First ideas (7.30); Open University programmes end at 7.55; At 11.00: Play School: Mary Dawson's story Scarecrow Scallywag. With Chloe Ashcroft and Brian Cant (also on BBC 1, *at 3.55 pm*); 11.25 Closedown; 2.15 Racing from Newbury: We see the 2.30 State Express Young Steeplechasers' Qualifier, the 3.00 Daily Mirror Conditional Jockeys Championship Hurdle Race *and the* 4.00 March Hare Handicap Hurdle Race. Commentary: Julian Wilson, *John Hanmer.*

4.15 Living on the Land: George Lane Fox, landlord of Yorkshire's Bramham Park estate (r).

4.40 Around with Alliss: Peter Alliss talks to Bill McLaren and plays *golf with him.*

5.10 Score Reading: How to find your way through a musical score; *5.35* Weekend Outlook: Open University preview.

5.40 Film: Sherlock Holmes and the Woman in Green* (1945) The case of the missing thumbs. *With Basil Rathbone, Nigel* Bruce.

6.50 Dear Heart: Comedy series for teenagers.

7.15 Spine Chillers: Freddie Jones reads H G Wells's In the Avu Observatory (r); *7.25* News.

7.30 Heroes: Hugh Falkus's idols include Sherlock Holmes.

8.00 Gardeners' World: Pruning, sowing, and tending the lawn.

8.25 Newsweek: Wealth distribution in Britain.

9.00 Iris Williams and Sunshine: First in a new four week series. *The popular Welsh singer and* her musical friends go cruising to Malta, Lisbon, Naples and (tonight) Vigo. *En route,* there are songs.

9.30 The Pigman's Protégé: Thomas Ellice's play has Donald Gee as the rural matchmaker seeking a husband for a farmer's daughter. Set in Gloucestershire just after the *Great War. With Victoria* Fairbrother, Patrick Troughton and Hilary Dawson.

10.05 Cartoon: Banquet; 10.15 Scoop: Light-hearted news quiz compered by Richar Stilgoe. The panel: Graeme Garden, Diane Harron, Miles Kington and Jane Walmsley.

10.45 Newsnight: news, comment.

11.30 Friday Night . . . Saturday Morning. *The host is books* specialist Frank Delaney, making his second appearance in this role. Ends at 12.25 am.

ITV/LONDON

9.35 For Schools. Reading with Lenny; How we Used to Live (9.47); Numbers programme (10.09); *Physics in Action* (10.21); River Channel Forms (10.43); His and Hers? (11.05); Leather's qualities (11.22); Wheezles and Sneezes (11.34); 11.55 Comic Stories. 12.00 Song Book: With Kathy Jones, Leo Cove, Meg Nicbol. 12.10 Once Upon a Time: The Golden Goose. With Peter Davison. 12.30 Second Thoughts: New series begins. Education ideas for anyone, aged from nine to 90; *1.00* News; 1.20 Thames area news; 1.30 Take the high Road: Trouble at the sawmill; 2.00 After Noon Plus: Facing the questioners is Jo Grimond, the former Liberal leader; 2.45 Snooker: More play in the Yamaha Organs Trophy (more at 11.00 pm).

4.15 Dr Snuggles: the inventor with Peter Ustinov's voice; 4.20 Razzmatazz: Pop music show. With Buzz, Gary Numan, Brendan Healey and the Nolan Sisters.

4.45 The Haunting of Cassie Palmer: Episode 2. The medium's daughter (Helen Probyn) *pays a visit to a graveyard. She meets a* stranger there (Geoffrey Rose).

5.15 Square One: The Joe Brown big board game. With Suzi Quatro and Simon Bates.

5.45 News; 6.00 The 6 o'Clock Show: Amusing news stories. The host is Michael Aspel, strongly supported by Janet Street-Porter.

7.00 Family Fortunes: Bob Monkhouse puts questions to the Mayhews of Wells, Omerset, and the Whittles, of Folkestone.

7.30 Hawaii Five-O: famous artist died, and a series of murders follows. With Jack Lord as the private eye.

8.30 The Gaffer: Comedy series with Bill Maynard as the boss of a small engineering works. The bank gives him three days to pay off his overdraft — or else! And just when he thinks he has got his anarchist son off his hands, a cable arrives from Australia. Co-starring Russell Hunter, Pat Ashton.

9.00 We'll Meet Again: Episode three. The Second World War—and the American Air Force is stationed in Suffolk. The niece of a London spiv (Natalie Ogle) is terrified that her father will find out that she is in love with one of the American officers (Jeff Harding). Co-starring Susannah York and Michael J. Shannon.

10.00 News from ITN.

10.30 The London Programme: Sex Shops. The Government has introduced a Bill to allow local authorities to license these shops. But would it work? Local people in Tottenham, *Newham and Tunbridge Wells state their* views about the shops and the Bill. With Mary Whitehouse; Reg Race MP; Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State at the Home Office; and representatives of the sex shops firm Conegate.

11.00 Snooker: Highlights of today's play in the Yamaha Organs Trophy, from Derby.

12.00 *Police Surgeon: Police investigate a* rehabilitation home after a wave of crimes. With Sam Groom in the title role.

12.30 Close: Wynford Vaughan Thomas on the art of being Welsh.

Radio 4

6.00 *News Briefing.*
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
8.33 *Yesterday in Parliament.*
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Disc. John Osborne, playwright.
9.45 Feedback.
10.00 News.
10.02 *International Assignment.*
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story: "Hilbre Sunday" By Berlie Doherty.
11.00 News.
11.05 The True Cost of Fish. Buckie, a small fishing port on Scotland's north-east coast, and its experience of loss of life at sea.
11.50 Bird of the Week: The blue tit.
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours.
12.27 My Word! Panel Game. †
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Afternoon Theatre. "The Salamander" by Gaylord Meech. †
4.05 Poetry Please! †
4.15 Victims. Getting Justice. †
4.45 Story Time: "Welsh Fargo" by Harry Secombe.
5.00 PM: News-Magazine.
6.00 The Six O'clock News.
6.30 Going Places.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week. †
8.10 Profile. A personal portrait.
8.30 Any Questions!
9.15 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight News.
10.35 Week Ending. †
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "A Confederacy of Dunces" by John Kennedy Toole (10).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
11.45 Miles Kington.
12.00 News.

VHF; 9.05am For Schools. 10.30 Listen with Mother. *11.00 For Schools. 2.00 For* Schools. 11.00-12.00 Study on 4.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 *News.*
7.05 Morning Concert. Respighi, Rossini, Mendelssohn, Enesco; *records.* †
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert (continued) Balakirev, Rachmaninov (mono), Stravinsky, Tchaikovsky; records.
9.00 *News.*
9.05 This Week's Composer. Beethoven; records. †
10.00 Martinu's Last Year. Concert. †
10.45 St David's Music Work. Piano recital: Beethoven, Dabiel Jones, Chopin. †
11.35 Style Galant. Chamber music recital: Telemann, Tessarini, Quantz. †
12.15 Midday Prom, direct from the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester. Part 1: Janacek, Prokofiev. †
1.00 News.
1.05 the Choice. Written in 1700 by John Pomfret, and arr. for radio by John Robert King.
1.20 Midday Prom, Part 2: Dvorak. †
2.05 Light Music Minatures. Recital: Milhaud, Chopin, Michael Henry, Arnold, Liszt, Francaix. †
3.10 The Busch Quartet plays Beethoven; record.
4.00 Choral Evensong from Hereford Cathedral. †
4.55 News.
5.00 *Mainly for Pleasure.* †
6.55 Play It Again. Preview. †
7.00 Prokofiev on record. †
7.30 Brandis Quartet of Berlin. String quartet recital direct from the Broadcasting Centre, Birmingham. Part 1: Wolf, Mozart. †
8.05* Poetry Now. Readings of new poetry.
8.25* *Recital. Part 2: Schubert.* †
9.10 Words. Talk by Gerald Lang (1).
9.15 Music in Our Time. *Gyula* Csapo, Hans Ulrich Lehmann, William Albright. †
10.15 Book, Music and Lyrics. *Robert* Cushman's personal view of musicals. †
11.00 News.
11.05 Guy Ropartz on record. †

VHF: 5.55-6.55. Open *University. 11.20pm-1.00am.* Open University.

Radio 2

5.0 Ray Moore. † 7.30 Terry Wogan. † 10.0 *Jimmy* Young. † 12.0 Davis Cup Special: Italy v Great Britain direct from Foro Italico, Rome. 2.0 Ed Stewart, including 2.45, 3.45 Sports Desk. † 4.0 David Hamilton, including 4.45 Sports Desk. † 5.45 News; Sport. 6.0 Jan Leeming, including 6.45 Sports Desk. † 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night. A gala edition from the Barbican Hall, London, including 8.30-8.50* *interval.* Talk by Benny Green. 9.55 Sports Desk. 10.0 Listen to Les. 10.30 Anything for a Laugh. 11.0 Brian Matthew. 1.0 Truckers' Hour with Sheila Tracy. † 2.0-5.0 You and the Night and the Music with Tim Gudgin. †

Sheila Armstrong: Friday Night is Music Night (Radio 2, 7.30pm)

Radio 1

5.0 As Radio 2. 7.0 Mike Read. 9.0 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis, *including* 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.0 Paul Burnett. 3.30 Steve Wright. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.0 Andy Peebles. 10.0 The Friday Rock Show with Tommy Vance. † 12.0 Close.

WORLD SERVICE

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz 463m) at the following times (GMT): 6.00 Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 7.30 Backtracking. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Divertimento. 8.30 Smash of the Day: The Navy Lark. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. *9.15 The* World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Music Now. 10.15 *Merchant Navy Programme.* 10.30 Business Matters. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 11.25 Ulster Newsletter. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 1.30 The Ages of Man. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 John Peel. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 My World 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 9.15 Music Now. 9.45 Letter From London. 9.55 Waveguide. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 Thirty Minute Theatre. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Music for the Harpsichord. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 A Word in Edgeways. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, *MF 1215kHz/247m.* Radio 4 *LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m.* LBC MF 1152khz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1

BBC CYMRU/WALES 12.57-1.00 pm News of Wales. 1.45-2.02 Y Cowboi *Bach. 2.35-3.00 I Ysgolion. 3.20-3.55* Closedown. 5.10-5.35 Gweld I'r Gwylit. 6.00-6.22 Wales Today. 7.00-*7.20 Heddiw. 7.30-7.50 Pobol Y Cwm.* 7.50-8.20 Pride of Place. 8.20-8.50 The Collier's Crusade. 10.15-11.05 Week in Week Out. 11.05-11.06 News. 11.06-1240 am Film: The Devil's 8 (Cristopher George). Scotland 11.00-11.22 am For Schools. *12.55-1.00* pm News. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 6.00-6.22 Reporting Scotland. 10.15-10.45 Goodbye Mr Kent. *10.45-10.50 News.* Northern Ireland 11.00-11.22 am Closedown. 12.57-1.00 pm News. 3.20-3.53 *Closedown.* 3.53-3.55 News. 6.00-6.22 Scene around Six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 10.45-10.50 News. 1.00 am News. England 6.00-6.22 pm Regional Magazines. 10.15-10.45 East: Weekend. Midlands: Midlands Tonight. North: Backstage. North East: Daisy. North West: Sweet and Sour. South: Day Out. South West: The Attic Archives. West: Marathon Runner. 1.00 am Close.

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 6.00 Calendar. 6.30-7.00 Sport. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy (Lee Majors). 10.30-11.00 Bizarre. 12.00 For Club and Country: Story of Hampden Park. *12.45am* Closedown.

BORDER

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 That's Hollywood: Teenagers. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy (Lee Majors). 10.30-11.00 Bizarre. 12.00 News. 12.03am Closedown.

TSW

As London except: 11.55am-12.00 Look and See. 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. *1.20-1.30 News.* 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30 What's Ahead. 7.30-8.30 Hart to Hart. *10.32 News. 10.35 Postscript. 10.40* Mysterious Tales. 10.45-11.00 Love American Style. 12.00 Three's Company. 12.31am Closedown.

ULSTER

As London except: 11.34 am-12.00 Face Your Future. 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 5.15 Hear Here: Traditional Music With The Boys Of The Lough. 5.30-5.45 Good Evening Ulster. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.30-7.00 Diff'rent Strokes. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Witness. 10.35-11.00 Benson. *12.00 News at Bedtime,* Closedown.

SCOTTISH

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20 News. 1.30-2.00 Square One. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.25 Sports Extra. *6.45-7.00 Hear Here: Battlefield Band.* 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Late Call. 11.05 Snooker. 12.00 Bizarre. 12.30am Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As London except: 9.25am Good *Word.* 9.30-9.35 News. 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. Lookaround. 6.00 News. 6.02 Sportstime. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 News. 10.32-11.00 Bizarre. 12.00 Superstar Profile: Roger Moore. 12.30am Poet's Corner. 12.35 Closedown.

CENTRAL

As London except: 11.35 am-12.00 Something Different. 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. *6.00-7.00* News. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy (Lee Majors). 10.30-11.00 Bizarre. 12.00 News. *12.05 am Film: Taste of Evil* (Barbara Stanwyck, Roddy McDowall). Young woman cured of mental illness returns home only to find herself the target of someone seeking to undermine her newly won sanity. 1.30 Closedown.

CHANNEL

As London except: starts 11.55 am-12.00 Look and see. 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45 *Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Channel* Report. 6.35-7.00 All That Jazz. 7.30-8.30 Hart to Hart. 10.28 News. 10.35 *Aujourd'Hui En France. 10.40* Mysterious Tales. 10.45-11.00 Love American Style. 12.00 Three's Company. 12.30am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN

As London except: Starts 9.30 am-9.35 First Thing. 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20 News. *6.00-7.00 North Tonight.* 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Points North: Monthly political round-up. 11.30 *Snooker.* 12.00 Wild, Wild World of Animals. 12.30 am News. 12.35 Closedown.

TVS

As London except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Vets: 1.20-1.30 News. 5.15 Watch This Space. . . 5.30-5.45 Coast to Coast. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.30-7.00 Friday Sportshow. 7.30-8.30 The Fall Guy. 10.30-11.00 Bizarre. 12.00 Lou Grant. 1.00 am Company, followed by Closedown.

GRANADA

As London except: 11.54-12.00 Wattoo, Wattoo. 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. *1.20 Granada Reports. 1.30 Exchange* Flags. 2.00 Take the High Road. 2.30-2.45 Sound of . . . Vince Hill. 6.00 Kick Off. 6.30-7.00 Granada Reports. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy (Lee Majors). 10.30-11.00 Bizarre. 12.00 Film: Who Are You? (Romy Schneider). Man is mysteriously killed in a car crash, and his woman companion is suspected. 1.30am Closedown.

ANGLIA

As London except: 11.33 am-12.00 Survival. 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy (Lee Majors). 10.30-11.00 Bizarre. 12.00 Film: Savages (Andy Griffith). Man struggles desperately in the heat of the desert to escape from a murderer. 1.20 am Encounters at Walsingham.

HTV WEST

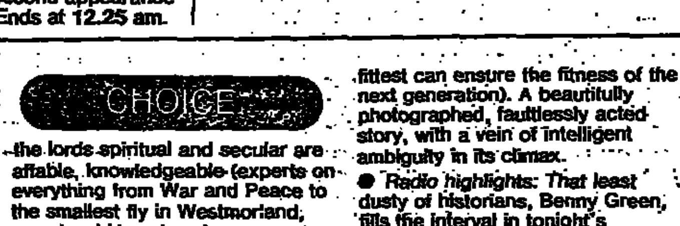
As London except: 11.50 am-12.00 Cartoon. 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45 Benson. 6.00 News. 6.30-7.00 Mr and Mrs. 7.30-8.30 The Fall Guy. 10.28 News. 10.30-11.00 Good Neighbour Show. 12.00 Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES

As HTV West except: 11.34 am-11.49 About Wales. *12.00-12.10 pm* Ffalabalam. 4.15-4.45 Yr Hwyaid Gwyllt. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. *10.30-11.00 Outlook.*

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO * BLACK AND WHITE: (r) REPEAT.

CHOICE



Hilary Dawson: The Pigman's Protégé (BBC 2, 9.30pm)

● NATIONWIDE (BBC 1, 6.22pm) is devoted entirely to the *contemporary equivalents of W. S.* Gilbert's "paragons of legislation, pillars of the British nation" (see *Iolanthe*). In other words, the House of Lords. This is, however, a strictly factual report on our peers, the first film in a series of three which reveal what their lordships do when they are not ceremonially processing in their *red, fur-trimmed dressing gowns. Some, like Lord* Blyton, quaff a sociable half-pint and take to the floor at the local working men's club dance. Others, like Lord Colwyn, blow a mean trumpet in a jazz band when not probing the contents of open *mouths in* a dentist's surgery. What emerges from tonight's film is that when they're at the *Palace* Westminster, the lords spiritual and secular are affable, knowledgeable (experts on everything from War and Peace to the smallest fly in Westmorland, says Lord Home) and discerning (copies of The Times are much in evidence).

● THE PIGMAN'S PROTEGE (BBC 2, 9.30 pm). Thomas Ellice's play about a Gloucestershire village wooing, runs for 35 minutes — a perfect length for a perfectly told tale. The period, the early twenties, determines not only the theme (a planned marriage to ease *a farming family out of its* economic plight), but also its resolution (in a post-war world *depleted of its menfolk, only the* fittest can ensure the fitness of the next generation). A beautifully photographed, faultlessly acted story, with a vein of intelligent ambiguity in its climax.

● *Radio highlights: That least* dusty of historians, Benny Green, fills the interval in tonight's FRIDAY NIGHT IS MUSIC NIGHT from the newly-opened Barbican Centre (Radio 2, 7.30) with a 20-minute résumé of the history of this 2,000-year-old area of the City. The concert itself is given by the BBC Concert Orchestra and a bevy of artistes including Sheila Armstrong, Ryland Davies and Joan Savage. . . . And, in KALEIDOSCOPE (Radio 4, 9.30), *there's expert comment on the* Barbican centre's first major art exhibition: Aftermath: New Images *of Man, 1945-1954.*

House of Lords — Law Report March 5 1982 — House of Lords

Prison governor guilty of contempt

Raymond v Honey

Before Lord Wilberforce, Lord Elwyn-Jones, Lord Russell of Killowen, Lord Lowry and Lord Bridge of Harwich

[Speeches delivered March 4]

It was a contempt of court for a prison governor, acting under *prison rules and standing orders* but without express statutory authority, to hold back an *application made* by a *prisoner to* the High Court for leave to issue proceedings, since it was conduct *calculated to obstruct the due* course of justice and the citizen's right of access to the courts, including the *civil rights of* a convicted prisoner which had not been taken away from him.

Their Lordships dismissed an appeal by Mr Colin Peter Honey, one-time Governor of Albany Prison, Isle of Wight, from the Divisional Court (Lord Justice Ormrod and Mr Justice Webster) (*The Times*, April 18, 1981; [1981] QB 874) which on a motion by Mr Steven Patrick Raymond, a serving prisoner, held the governor to be in contempt of court by stopping the prisoner from lodging an application to the High Court to commit the governor for contempt.

The House also dismissed a cross-appeal by the prisoner from the decision of the same court that the governor was not in contempt in respect of stopping a letter written by the prisoner to his solicitor in the legal proceedings.

The prisoner was at the material time serving a sentence for theft of about £2m and was also concerned in other criminal proceedings, in respect of which he had retained solicitors. On June 26, 1980, he wrote a letter to his solicitors.

The governor, suspecting and, as the Divisional Court held, having reasonable cause to suppose, that the letter contained matter not relating to the *pending proceedings, caused it to* be opened and read, and finding that it included an allegation against an assistant governor, a Mr Bagshaw, stopped the letter.

The prisoner then prepared an application to the High Court for leave to apply for an order of committal against the governor under Order 52 of the Rules of the Supreme Court for contempt of court. It included a statement, a draft affidavit and exhibits, and a covering letter. The governor stopped that application on the ground that it included an allegation against a prison *officer, and that, under the* Prison Rules (1964) it could not be forwarded under the "prior ventilation" rule, namely, that such allegations must first be investigated in the prison.

Mr Simon D Brown and Mr Andrew Collins for the governor; Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC and Mr Anthony Trollope for the prisoner.

LORD WILBERFORCE, said on the governor's appeal that in considering whether any contempt had been committed, one started with two basic principles. First, any act calculated to obstruct or interfere with the due course of justice or the lawful process of the courts was a contempt of court: see *R v Gray* ([1900] 2 Q B 36, 40)

The force of that principle had in no way been diminished since 1900. In *Attorney General v Times Newspapers Ltd* ([1974] AC 273) Lord Diplock, with whom Lord Simon agreed, clearly stated that to inhibit suitors from availing themselves of their constitutional right to have their legal rights and obligations ascertained and enforced by courts of law, could amount to contempt of court.

The principle had been strongly affirmed by the European Court of Human Rights in *Golder v UK* ([1980] 1 EHRR 524). The court there decided that access to a court was a right protected by article 6 of the European Convention, and, while not expressly ruling on the compatibility with the Convention of rules 33, 34, and 37 of our Prison Rules, and while accepting that the right might be subject to limitations, applied that ruling to a convicted United Kingdom prisoner who wished to direct proceedings against a prison staff member and to a hindrance *of a temporary character.*

Second, under English law, a convicted prisoner, in spite of his imprisonment, retained *all civil* rights which were not taken away expressly or by necessary implication.

The question was to what extent (if any) the prisoner's rights were taken away, or affected by, the Prison Rules, or by standing orders made by the secretary of state.

The statutory authority to make rules was conferred by section 47 of the Prison Act 1952 (as amended): "(1) The secretary of state may make rules for the regulation and management of prisons, remand centres, *detention centres and Borstal* institutions respectively, and for the classification, treatment, employment, discipline and control of persons required to be detained therein.

"(2) Rules made under this section shall make provision for ensuring that a person who is charged with any offence under the rules shall be given a proper opportunity of presenting his case."

The relevant rules for the *present appeal* and cross appeal were rules 33, 34, 37 and 37A. Rule 33, on letters and visits *generally, gave by subparagraph* (1) the secretary of state discretion to impose restrictions on the communications to be permitted between a prisoner and other persons.

Subparagraph (2): "Except as provided by statute or these rules, a prisoner shall not be permitted to communicate with any outside person . . . without the leave of the secretary of state".

By Rule 33(3): "Except as provided by these rules, every letter or communication to or from a prisoner may be read or examined by the governor or an officer deputed by him, and the governor may, at his discretion, stop any *letter or communication* on the ground that its contents are objectionable or that it is of *inordinate length*".

Rule 37 dealt with legal advisers of a prisoner in any *legal proceedings; and sub rule* 37A provided: "(1). A prisoner who is a party to any legal *proceedings may correspond* with his legal adviser in connexion with the proceedings and unless *the governor* has reason to suppose that any such correspondence contains matter not *relating* to the proceedings it shall not be read or stopped under rule 33(3) of these rules."

The rules, in addition, conferred powers on the secretary of state to make standing orders.

Standing order 29(1) provided that "When a prisoner makes an allegation against an officer in a *letter, the* letter will be stopped and his governor informed. The governor will then explain to the *prisoner* the correct procedure to follow in making a complaint against an officer."

The correct procedure was in fact for the prisoner to make a formal complaint with a view to an internal investigation. A prisoner might pursue his complaint through the courts only after there had been an investigation of that kind.

Standing order 17A(4) permitted an inmate to *institute civil* proceedings (including an application for an order of certiorari, mandamus or *prohibition)* in person or might instruct a solicitor to do so on his behalf subject to the "prior ventilation" provisions.

In light of those provisions his Lordship turned to the subject matter of the appeal — the stopping by the governor of the prisoner's application to the High Court.

In his Lordship's opinion there was nothing in the Prison Act that conferred power to make regulations which would deny, or interfere with, the right of a prisoner to have unimpeded access to a court. *Section 47 was* concerned with the regulation and management of prisons and quite insufficient to authorize, hindrance or interference with so basic a right.

The regulations themselves must be interpreted accordingly, otherwise they would be *ultra vires*. So interpreted, his Lordship was unable to conclude that *either rule* 34(8) — which was expressed in very general terms — or rule 37A(4) whether taken by *themselves or* in conjunction with standing orders, was in any way sufficiently clear to justify the *hindrance which took place.*

The standing orders, if they had any *legislative force* at *all*, could not confer any greater powers than the regulations, *which must themselves* be construed in accordance with the statutory power to make them. *The action of the governor* was clearly such as to deny, albeit temporarily, the prisoner's right *of access to the court and, on the* principle stated, constituted a contempt.

His Lordship agreed, therefore, as to the appeal, with the Divisional Court's conclusion on *that contempt.*

On the prisoner's cross appeal, his *complaint* was that the letter in question written by him to his solicitors was caused to be opened and read, on the ground that the governor had reason to suppose that it contained matter not relating to the proceedings with which the letter was mainly concerned.

The Divisional Court held and were entitled to hold that the governor did have reasonable ground so to suppose. But what was in question was the stopping of the letter.

Whether the governor was entitled to stop it under the rules or standing orders might be open to doubt; but it was not necessary to decide that question for his *Lordship did* not consider that any contempt was committed. The evidence on the point was *admittedly not clear.*

The Divisional Court accepted the governor's evidence and *concluded:* "*In these circumstances,* whether or not he was entitled to stop the letter, we are *satisfied that his conduct was not* conduct calculated to obstruct or interfere with the due course of justice or *the lawful process* of the courts and that it was not therefore a contempt of court".

Although his *Lordship* would have liked more precise evidence on the issue, it was for the prisoner to make out his case and the court to reach a conclusion on such evidence as it had. His Lordship would also dismiss the cross appeal.

LORD BRIDGE, agreeing, said he would add a third, equally basic, principle to the two stated by *Lord Wilberforce,* namely, that a citizen's right to unimpeded access to the courts could only be taken away by express enactment.

On the cross-appeal and the supporting evidence, no doubt the unjustified stopping of a communication between a prisoner and his solicitor was capable of amounting to a *contempt of court.*

But it was for the prisoner to show that it did so, and the *evidence failed to establish* that the stopping of the letter to the solicitor *effectively* impeded the prisoner in giving to his *solicitor* whatever instructions he wished.

Lord Elwyn-Jones, Lord Russell and Lord Lowry agreed.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor; Hallinan, Blackburn, Gittings & Co.

Hotel decor is allowable plant

***Inland Revenue Commissioners* v Scottish & Newcastle Breweries Ltd**

Before Lord Wilberforce, Lord Salmon, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Lowry and Lord Bridge of Harwich

[Speeches delivered March 4]

Expenditure on electric light fittings, murals and decor, such as tapestries, bagpipes, pistols and deer skins, installed in hotels and licensed premises to create an atmosphere conducive to the well-being of the hotels' customers, was capital expenditure "on the provision of machinery or plant for the purposes of the company's trade".

The House of Lords so held in dismissing an appeal by the Crown from a decision of the First Division of the Inner House of the Court of Session of Scotland (Lord Emslie, Lord President, Lord Cameron and Lord Stott) that had upheld a *determination of the special* commissioners allowing a claim by the company, Scottish & *Newcastle* Breweries Ltd for first-year capital allowances for its accounting period ended April *1973 for expenditure* of £105,000 on such items under section 41(1) of the Finance Act 1971.

Mr W. D. Prosser, QC, Mr A. C. Hamilton (both of the Scots Bar) and Mr Robert Carnwath for the Crown; Lord McCluskey, QC and Mr J. E. Drummon Young (both of the Scots Bar) for the company.

LORD WILBERFORCE said that the company owned and managed a large number of hotels and licensed premises in Scotland and England. In 1972 it decided that to increase or even maintain its turnover it ought to brighten and modernise the facilities offered to the public.

It therefore spent money on electrical rewiring, new light fittings and various categories of decor and murals, such as plaques, tapestries and pictures. In one hotel it set up two elaborate metal sculptures representing seagulls in flight.

Section 41 of the Finance Act 1971 stated as the condition for obtaining the *allowance* that the claimant had to be carrying on a trade and incur capital expenditure on the provision of machinery or plant for the purpose of the trade. The question for decision, which both courts below had answered in the company's favour, was whether the expenditure, undoubtedly capital expenditure, was on the provision of "plant".

Of the claimed items of expenditure the commissioners *disallowed* that *on* electrical wiring and against that decision there was no appeal. The remaining items totalled about £105,000.

The commissioners' findings established that the company considered on commercial principles what type of clientele it wished to attract and on that basis instructed architects and interior designers. The type, design and layout of the lighting arrangements, particularly in the common living areas, were selected with the aim of producing the atmosphere appropriate to attract the type of customers sought.

That was regarded by the company as an important factor in the commercial success of *their premises, a view supported* by market research. The same appeared to be true of the decor and murals.

Was then, this expenditure incurred in the provision of plant? The word "plant" had frequently been used in fiscal and other legislation and was one to which no statutory definition had been provided. Its interpretation was left to the court. It had naturally happened, as case followed case, that the meaning of the word gradually diverged from its natural or dictionary meaning. No ordinary man, literate or semi-literate, would think that a horse, a swimming pool, moveable partitions, or even a dry dock was plant — yet each had been held to be so: so why not such equally improbable items as murals, or tapestries, or chandeliers?

The courts had over the years provided themselves with some guidance in principle, starting with Lord Justice Lindley in *Yarmouth v France* ((1887) 19 QBD 647,658). Plant, he said "included whatever apparatus is used by a business man for carrying on his business — not *his stock-in-trade which he buys* or makes for sale; but all goods and chattels, fixed or movable, *live or dead,* which he keeps for permanent employment in his business".

Later cases had revealed that a permanent structure might be plant (*IRC v Barclay, Curle & Co Ltd* (1969) 1WLR 657) and argument had ranged over the question whether to constitute plant an item had to fulfil an active role or whether a passive role would suffice. Perhaps the most useful discrimen for present purposes where the House was *concerned with something* done to premises, was to be found in that of "setting": to *provide a setting for the conduct* of a trade or business was not to provide plant — *J. Lyons and Co Ltd v Attorney General* ((1944) Ch 281) concerning electric lamps, socket and cords for lighting a tea shop. But that, too, was not without difficulty.

In the *Lyons* case Mr Justice Uthwatt thought that different considerations might apply to certain specific lamps because they might "be connected with the needs of the particular trade *carried on upon the premises*".

Another much used test word was "functional". That was useful as expanding the notion of "apparatus"; it was used by Lord Reid in the *Barclay, Curle* case. But that, too, had to be considered, *in itself,* as inconclusive. Functional for what? Did the item serve a functional purpose in providing a *setting?* Or one for use in the trade?

It was easy, without excessive *imagination, to devise perplexing* cases. A false ceiling designed to hide unsightly pipes was not *plant, although the pipes themselves* might be: see *Hampton v Fortes Autogrill Ltd* (1980 STC 80).

Was a tapestry hung on an unsightly wall any different from a *painted mural? And did it* make any difference whether there was a damp patch underneath?

What limit could be placed on attraction, interior or exterior, designed to make premises more pleasing to the eye? There was no universal formula which could solve these puzzles.

In the end each case had to be resolved by considering carefully the nature of the particular trade being carried on and the relation of the expenditure to the promotion of the trade. The courts should not shrink, as a backstop, from asking whether it could *really* be supposed that Parliament desired to encourage a particular expenditure out of taxpayer's money, and perhaps ultimately in extreme cases to say that *that* was too much to stomach.

The company's trade included *and was furthered by the* provision of "atmosphere" or "ambience", which, rightly or *wrongly, it thought might attract* customers. Such intangibles might in a very concrete sense be *part of what the trader set out* and spent money to achieve.

The amenities and decoration in such a case as the present were not, by contrast with the *Lyons* case, the setting in which the trader carried on his business, but the setting which he offered to his customers for them to resort to and enjoy. That it was setting in the latter and not the former sense for which the money was spent had been established by the commissioners' findings.

It was not impossible to attribute to Parliament an intention to encourage by fiscal inducement the improvenent of hotel amenity.

The commissioner's examination of the facts was careful and helpful and their decision was agreed in by all members of the Inner House. The appeal should *be dismissed.*

LORD LOWRY, agreeing, said *that the Crown's case was that* both the commissioners and the judges of the First Division had *misunderstood* and misapplied the relevant legal principles.

It was argued: (1) that the setting of a trade was synonymous with the premises in which the trade was carried on, in contrast to the apparatus with which it was carried on; (2) that articles used merely to enhance or adorn the setting and thereby *to create atmosphere could* not in law be plant because they were not used in the activity carried on *in the setting; and therefore* (3) that the only articles which could qualify as plant were those *used in the processes of the* trades, such as chairs to sit on or plates to eat off.

It was further said that the functional test had been wrongly understood by the commissioners *who wrongly assumed that any* thing which served a functional purpose in a trade had to be plant *used for carrying on that trade.*

But the Crown's primary fallacy was to identify "setting" *inevitably with "premises"* by misapplying to the case the observations of the judges in *Jarrod v John Good & Sons Ltd.* ([1963] 1 WLR 214) when facing the question whether the articles *were part of the setting in which* the business was carried on or part of the plant with which it *was carried on.*

And, even if one assumed that "the setting" was the same thing as the "premises", it was fallacious to say that articles used to adorn the setting thereby ceased to be apparatus used by the company for carrying on its trade.

It was equally fallacious to deny that the creation of atmosphere was for the purposes of his trade, an important function of the successful hotelier. The creation of the right atmosphere was a means to an end in the carrying on of such a trade: it was not a trade in itself or a separate part of the trade.

The length to which the Crown's argument went illustrated *its frailty.* It was also an illusion to think that a more general interpretation of "plant" *would* lead to unjustified exemptions. There was no lack of claims that had been rejected by commissioners or favouable decisions which had later been reversed by the courts.

Moreover the test accepted in this case by the commissioners and affirmed by the Inner House drew a line which could be held without trouble: something which became part of the premises, instead of merely embellishing them, was not plant, *except in the rare case where the premises were themselves plant,* like the dry dock in the *Barclay, Curle* case.

And, in the last resort, if after enduring a century of *Yarmouth v France,* Parliament decided that "plant" had to receive a statutory definition, something could no doubt be done to curb the "excesses" of the commissioners and the judiciary.

The appeal should be dismissed.

Lord Salmon, Lord Fraser and Lord Bridge agreed.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Martin & Co for Shepherd & Wedderburn, Edinburgh.

Britain's EEC bill set to reach £540m

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

EEC membership is likely to cost Britain some £540m in 1982, according to Treasury estimates, unless a restructuring of the community budget is agreed quickly.

This figure is the basis of the case for a final settlement of the problem of the budget's imbalance to be put to the European Council by the Prime Minister at the end of this month.

Mrs Thatcher is likely to have a double difficulty. There will be resistance to the merits of the British case, since eight member countries are not beneficiaries of the present system, with West Germany the only other net contributor. And the Treasury figures like all forecasts, are highly debatable.

Britain's net contribution in 1982 was given as £622m in a White Paper published yesterday. Gross contributions were estimated at £2,667m and receipts at £2.045m, including the £865m rebate on Britain's 1981 contributions which the Common Public Accounts Committee requires to be included in the year it is received.

The net figure was at once revised downwards by some £80m—to £540m—by Treasury sources who explained that extra repayments were expected which had not been allowed for.

If the budget is not restructured, the compensation formula for Britain which was agreed two years ago will apply in 1982, for the third successive year. It is likely to yield according to the Treasury's best estimate.

Another reason for scepticism in the community about the British case is the fact that Britain's deficit in 1981 has proved to be much smaller than expected.

The agreement reached in May, 1980, expected Britain to show a "loss" of about £440m in its dealings with the community. The latest Treasury estimate is between £55m and £155m.

Whitehall insists that this is for special reasons that will not recur; higher world food prices, which reduced the cost of EEC export subsidies; the unexpectedly high value of sterling last year, and Britain's unexpectedly high share of ordinary receipts from the community.

In law some women are more equal than others

From Ian Murray, Brussels, March 4

Sex discrimination against men is one of the reasons that Britain is to be taken before the European Court for failing to bring its laws in line with EEC legislation.

Along with Belgium and Italy, Britain is in the first group of countries to be prosecuted for refusing to alter its legislation on equal rights.

One of the main complaints is that Britain refuses to accept male midwives, and if the European Court were to agree, it would mean that the profession would have to be opened to men.

The European Commission decided to bring the case against Britain because, in a number of areas, the Sex Discrimination Act of 1975 failed to match up to the European requirements on equal treatment agreed in 1976.

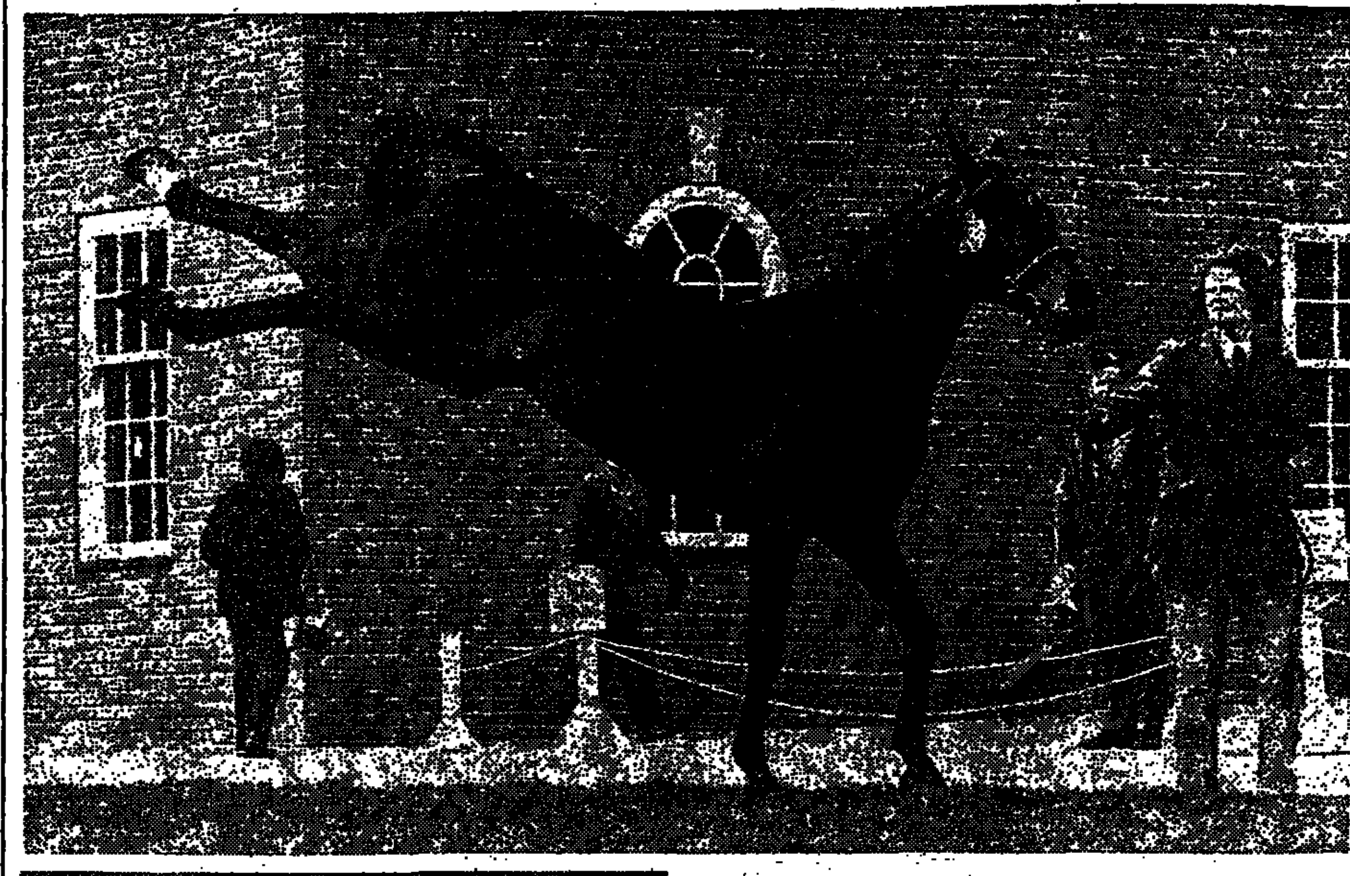
Britain was told in July, 1980, that it was not complying with the EEC directive, and last October it was sent a reasoned opinion requiring a justification for its failure to comply.

The British response was a strong defence of its existing legislation on the points at issue. According to the Commission: "If anything the British position hardened so there was no alternative but to bring the prosecution."

The main point at issue is that British law does not specifically require all trade union agreements to respect the principle of equal treatment of men and women.

Kick-back for the judges

Brian Harris





A stallion stretches its legs before entering the arena at the thoroughbred stallion show in Newmarket yesterday. The Queen presented the trophies, awarded by the judges (immediately above) of the Hunters' Improvement and National Light Horse Breeding Society. The stallion gaining most marks for "service and foaling returns" was Politico, awarded the Henry Tudor Cup. This was collected by Mrs Margot Peacock of Mickle Trafford, Chester.

Laker loses his free air travel privilege

By John Witherow

Sir Freddie Laker, who, as head of Laker Airways, has travelled to and from the United States free of charge, is to have his entitlement to free travel stopped by British Airways.

The decision was made after Sir Freddie returned first class from Miami on Tuesday while passengers stranded by the collapse of his airline a month ago travelled in the economy section of the same aircraft at an extra cost of £130 each.

Sir Freddie's entitlement to a free ticket is a reciprocal arrangement offered to the heads of airlines; the facility is being withdrawn because he is no longer in charge of one.

When he approached the British Airways station manager in Miami earlier this week messages were sent back and forth across the Atlantic before the airline's head office in London agreed to allow him to fly free of charge.

British Airways said yesterday: "There is no reason to suppose he will ask for, or will be granted, this facility again".

Sir Freddie has also flown first class to Los Angeles free of charge with Pan American since the collapse of Laker Airways. Pan America would not say yesterday whether it intended to withdraw his free travel.

British Caledonian and TWA indicated, however, that they would be taking the same line as British Airways.

□ British Caledonian appealed directly to the Prime Minister yesterday after the Civil Aviation Authority's refusal to grant it a "quickie" right to take over Laker's share of the Britain to Los Angeles route (our Transport Correspondent writes).

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Howell has been playing an away fixture too

Mr John Carlisle (Luton West, Con) managed to draw the House's attention yesterday to the suggestion that Mr Denis Howell, the Labour spokesman on sport, has been on a football tour of the Soviet Union through it all—the "all" being the cricket tour of South Africa.

Mr Carlisle and other verkrampte backbenchers such as Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, Con) and Mr Tony Marlow (Northampton North, Con) have been trying to intrude this priceless, immortal, glorious piece of information into the Commons uproar all week. But such are the rules of order and the haphazard way in which details get into Commons exchanges it sometimes takes days for the rest of us to grasp a point. "Where's Denis Howell?" these useful Tory brutes have been crying to no effect for some time. Still more obscurely, Mr Winterton demanded from the sedentary position at one stage earlier in the week: "Tell us about Aston Villa." (Only now do most of us realize that Mr Howell is apparently visiting the Soviet Union with that famous football club, the Shadow Minister for Sport being a Birmingham member.)

The Labour benches have been in a moralistic trance all week ever since Mr Gerald Kaufman launched the uproar with his memorably awful phrase about cricketers "selling themselves for blood-covered krugerrands".

And all the while Mr Howell was travelling amicably in a land which practises several forms of separate development, not least that between the rulers and the rest of the population. Are the Viua getting a share of the gate? Has Mr Howell drunk so much as one tincture of free vodka? If so, there's rouge on these roubles, as Mr Kaufman would put it.

Enormously heartened by Mr Howell's own goal, the Tory backbench hard types nodded with approval through another classical Thatcher innings yesterday on the issue of the tour. The very first question was on the subject. Mr Jack Straw (Blackburn, Lab) denounced her previous "mealy-mouthed" and "half-hearted" batting on the issue: a reference to her memorable overnight stand at question time last Tuesday. Did she now condemn the tour, he demanded. "Yes or no." The Prime Minister replied that she stood by "the Gleneagles agreement". This has been her tactic throughout the bowling, for hardly anyone can remember what the Gleneagles agreement was. But by yesterday she had become hampered by an irritatingly unequivocal condemnation of the tour by Lord Carrington, the regime's verligte Foreign Secretary. So yesterday she went on to say she shared the opinion of Lord Carrington that "this tour is perhaps a mistake". (Actually he put it rather more strongly than that.) Mrs Thatcher almost mumbled those words.

It is clear that she hates the whole controversy. Labour started raging. The loyal Sir William Clark (Croydon South, Con) tried to change the subject. Mr Foot rose. "To return to the cricket tour", he began and rambled into a question which contained the prying phrase: "Does the Right Hon lady agree with the Foreign Secretary", the correct answer to which is: very rarely. "The Right Hon Gentleman cannot have been listening", she told Mr Foot, assuming a world-weary air. "I endorsed the Foreign Secretary on this matter in my last reply", which really she had not. Suddenly, Mr Winston Churchill (Stretford, Con) bored in with a barrage balloon of loyalty consisting of: "May I congratulate the Prime Minister on taking the initiative among oil-producing nations to procure a sharp downward trend in oil prices? This provides not only Great Britain, but the industrialized world with the opportunity to break into what Iain Macleod called the virtuous circle in which ..." There was almost no end to this tremendous conversation stopper.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Prince of Wales attends a ceremony to commemorate the diamond jubilee of the Commonwealth Forestry Association at Westonbirt Arboretum, Gloucestershire, 3.

The Duke of Edinburgh, president of the Duke of Edinburgh's Commonwealth Study Conferences, attends a meeting with the 1986 Start Up Group in Bombay.

New exhibitions

Nanny Mulder: Mezzotints, and Sky felts by Jenny Cowern; Crawford Centre for Arts, University of St Andrews, Scotland; Mon to Sat 10 to 5; Sun 2 to 5; (both until March 28).

Gentle Eye, photographs by Jane Bown of The Observer, Scottish National Portrait Gallery, Queen Street, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 12.30 and 1.30 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (until April 11).

John Ruskin; an exhibition of drawings and watercolours, Whitworth Art Gallery, University of Manchester, Whitworth Park, Manchester; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thursday until 9; (until May 3).

Last chance to see

Scottish pottery, examples of the wares of some of the Scottish factories from the late eighteenth to the twentieth century; Perth Museum and Art Gallery, George Street, Perth; 10 to 1 and 2 to 5.

Talks, lectures

Curtains up on curtains, by Iain MacIntosh, Museum of London, London Wall, EC2, 1.10.

Cuyp: A hilly river landscape, by Andrey P. Tyndall, National Gallery, 1.

Carolingian and Ottonian art, by Geoffrey House, 11.30; and the location of archaeological sites, by David Williams, 1.15; both at British Museum.

George Stubbs by Mary Maidment, Tate Gallery, 1.

Music

Organ recital by Ian Tracey, St Paul's Cathedral, 12.30.

Recital by members of the French song class, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Barbican, EC2, 1.10.

Mid-Somerset competitive festival, Guildhall, Pump Room, and Technical College, Bath, Fri 5 to Sat 6, 10 to 5; Wed 10 to Sat 13 March, 10 to 5; Tues, March 16 to Sat March 20, 10 to 5.

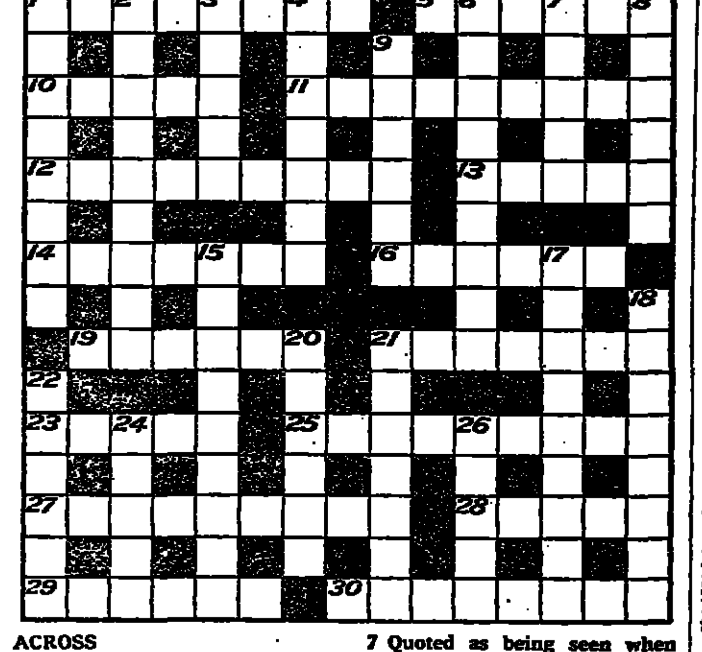
Concert by Northern Sinfonia Orchestra, Alnwick Castle, Northumberland, 7.30.

General

The King's Opera Group presents a production of Walton: Facade; and Weill: Mahagonny Songspiel, at New Theatre, Strand Building, Kings College London, 7.30.

The Janice Blake School of Dancing presents Children Entertain "82". De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill-on-Sea, 7.30.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No. 15,772



ACROSS
1 Do as Browning did taking writer as true wife (8).
5 Eavesdropping below zero? (6).
10 Charlie taking pub in New York (5).
11 Cleric embraces brother installed at Herstmonceux? (9).
12 He goes to battle to command — should do the trick! (3,6).
13 Deposit for cottage (5).
14 Change round to sounding pompous (7).
16 A body's design to speed retirement (6).
19 Workplace for boss at Number Ten (6).
21 Appearance money her reward in the theatre? (7).
23 Return to her or someone else (5).
25 Re-dial to get old military command (5-4).
27 Rose's companion (9).
28 So many corner-pieces in the cube (5).
29 Races at all these, anyhow (6).
30 Regular correspondence between sides (8).

DOWN
1 Big cat depicted tailless on old temple (8).
2 Nurse has go at making butter (5-4).
3 A better sort of cake (5).
4 Read by custom on first of December (7).
6 Sweet affinity of Corday and Currer (9).
7 Quoted as being seen when heard (5).
8 Some fear neddy — well deserved (6).
9 Water-borne item in Lord Mayor's Show (6).
15 Thought inferior at first to carpeting (9).
17 Attack on the way? Show amusement in this (9).
18 Zealously organizing a dry Lent (8).
20 Bill in strange lore finds this pronouncement (6).
21 "Whose —s are alternate Night and Day," (Fitzgerald) (7).
22 Drink the darts-player needs (6).
24 Rustic Roger (5).
26 Fuel bill item for the soldiers 9 (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,771

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

Food prices

With little incentive to retailers to make discounts, meat prices remain generally high and continue to show little change from one week to the next. Pork is probably the best buy, and New Zealand lamb is on average 20-40p a lb cheaper than English. Cheaper cuts, like shoulder of lamb and hand of pork, can be surprisingly good.

Seasonal fruit from South Africa, including apples, plums and grapes, is expensive. English apples are becoming scarce and expensive, but Conference pears can be found at their best, neither too hard nor overripe and messy.

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Top 10 films

The top ten films in London:
1 Reds
2 Absence of Malice
3 Death Wish II
4 Halloween II
5 Arthur
6 Taps
7 Dragonslayer
8 Chariots of Fire/Gregory's Girl
9 Fort Apache, The Bronx
10 Body Heat

The top five in the provinces:
1 Bedknobs and Broomsticks
2 Condorman
3 Water Babies
4 Monty Python's Life of Brian/Airplane!
5 Sleeping Beauty

Compiled by Screen International

The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.77	1.69
Austria Sch	31.75	29.75
Belgium Fr	88.75	84.25
Canada $	2.30	2.21
Denmark Kr	15.12	14.32
Finland Mkk	8.60	8.15
France Fr	11.48	10.88
Germany DM	4.51	4.26
Hongkong $	11.05	10.45
Ireland Pd	1.26	1.21
Italy Lit	2375.00	2275.00
Japan Yn	454.00	428.00
Netherlands Gld	4.92	4.66
Norway Kr	11.38	10.78
Portugal Esc	131.50	124.50
South Africa Rd	2.09	1.94
Spain Pta	192.00	183.00
Sweden Kr	11.00	10.42
Switzerland Fr	3.58	3.36
USA $	1.88	1.81

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

London: The FT Index closed up 1.5 at 556.7.

Gardens open

TOMORROW: Sussex West: Berri Court, Yapton, five miles sw of Arundel; three-acre garden, trees, shrubs, heathers. 2-6 pm. SUNDAY: Berkshire. The Coach House, Horse Leas, Bradfield, seven miles w of Reading. Interesting and difficult garden on north facing slope and heavy clay. Plants for sale. 2-6 pm. Hampshire. Cheriton Cottage, Cheriton, three miles s of Alresford; two-acre garden, trees, shrubs, chalk stream. 2-6 pm. Somerset. Clapton Court, three miles s of Crewkerne on B3165. 10 acres, unusual trees, shrubs, etc. Plants for sale. 2-5 pm; also every day except Saturdays. 10-5 pm. Renfrewshire. Auchengrange, Lochwinnoch, Renfrewshire; woodland carpeted with snowdrops; produce stall. 2-5.30 pm. MONDAY: Gloucestershire. The Old Manor, Twyning, near Tewkesbury. Over one-acre garden, trees, shrubs, herbaceous and alpine plants. Plants for sale. Every Monday 2-6 pm or dusk. Saturdays by appointment (Tewkesbury 293516). No Sundays.

The papers

The Daily Mirror today compares the "lad's army", the new adventure training scheme for young people proposed by Mr John Nott, the Secretary of State for Defence, with what it calls his new version of Dad's Army.

"The Government wants to recruit 4,500 men to defend 1,000 key installations for capture by Soviet assault troops. That is an average of 4½ men to beat off each attack. It should be quite a fight," it writes.

In Paris, Le Matin announces that France will produce its own neutron bomb and says President Mitterrand only waits for an opportune moment to announce a decision "which virtually has already been taken."

Commenting on the French government decision to lower petrol prices, Le Quotidien calls it "an electoral gadget which risks to give the death stroke to the refining industry."

Sporting fixtures

Football: See Page 19.
Racing: Newbury (2.0), Haydock Park (1.45).
Boxing: Oxford University v Cambridge University (Oxford Town Hall, 8.0).
Snooker: Yamaha Organs Tournament (Derby).
Squash rackets: ISPA championship (Abbeydale, Sheffield, 5.0).

Sport on TV

BBC2: 2.15, racing from Newbury.
ITV: 2.45, Snooker—Yamaha Organs Trophy; 11.00, Snooker—Yamaha Organs Trophy.

Auctions today

Christie's, King Street: Fine English pictures of the seventeenth and twentieth centuries, 10.30. Christie's, South Kensington: Printed books, atlases and maps, 10.30; old and modern silver, 2. Phillips, Blenheim Street: Silver and plate, 11. Sotheby's, Bond Street: Carpets, 10; English furniture, 11.

Bond winners

Winning numbers in the March draw for £10,000 Premium Bond prizes are: 7AN 620751 (winner lives in Berkshire); 4FB 023183 (Norfolk); 11TS 480243 (Herefordshire); 20VT 700633 (Essex); 3YT 950018 (Leeds).

Today's anniversaries

Giovanni Tiepolo was born in Venice, 1696; Austen Henry Layard, excavator of Nineveh, in Paris, 1817; William Henry Beveridge, in Rangpur, India, 1879. Correggio died at Correggio, 1534, and Thomas Arne in London, 1778.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private members' motions on unemployment in Kent and on test-tube babies.

Weather

A ridge of high pressure will move steadily across Britain as a trough of low pressure advances from the W

6 am to midnight

London, SE England, East Anglia: Frost early, mostly dry, sunny intervals, becoming cloudy later; winds variable light becoming SW light to moderate; max temp 9C (48F).

Cent S England, Midlands, Channel Islands: Frost early, sunny intervals, becoming mostly cloudy with occasional rain or drizzle later; wind variable, becoming SW light to moderate; max temp 9C (48F).

E, cent N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, cent Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Frosty in places at first, sunny intervals, becoming cloudy with outbreaks of rain later; wind variable light, becoming S to SW moderate or fresh; max temp 4 to 7C (39 to 45F).

SW England, S Wales: Mostly cloudy with some rain or drizzle at times, hill and coastal fog patches developing later; winds SW moderate or fresh; max temp 9C (48F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW, NW Scotland, Argyll, N Ireland: Generally cloudy with rain followed later by showers; winds S veering SW fresh, locally strong; max temp 8C (46F).

Outlook for the weekend: Unsettled, windy at times, near normal temperatures.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind NW, strong, decreasing to moderate; sea rough, becoming moderate. Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind NW, fresh or strong, decreasing to moderate; sea rough, becoming moderate. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind S or SW, fresh or strong, increasing to gale; sea moderate, becoming rough.

Sun rises: 6.38 am
Sun sets: 5.47 pm
Moon sets: 4.11 am
Moon rises: 12.29 pm

Full moon: March 9.

Lighting up time

London 6.17 pm to 6.06 am
Bristol 6.27 pm to 6.15 am
Edinburgh 6.25 pm to 6.23 am
Manchester 6.24 pm to 6.16 am
Penzance 6.40 pm to 6.26 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	c	9	48	Guernsey	s	9	48
Birmingham	c	8	46	Inverness	c	7	45
Blackpool	c	7	45	Jersey	c	8	46
Bristol	c	9	48	London	c	9	48
Cardiff	f	9	48	Manchester	r	4	39
Edinburgh	f	8	46	Newcastle	c	7	45
Glasgow	f	8	46	Ronaldsway	c	9	48

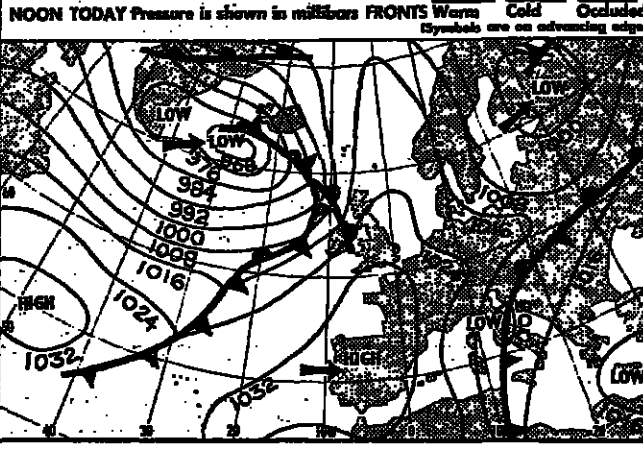
Highest and lowest

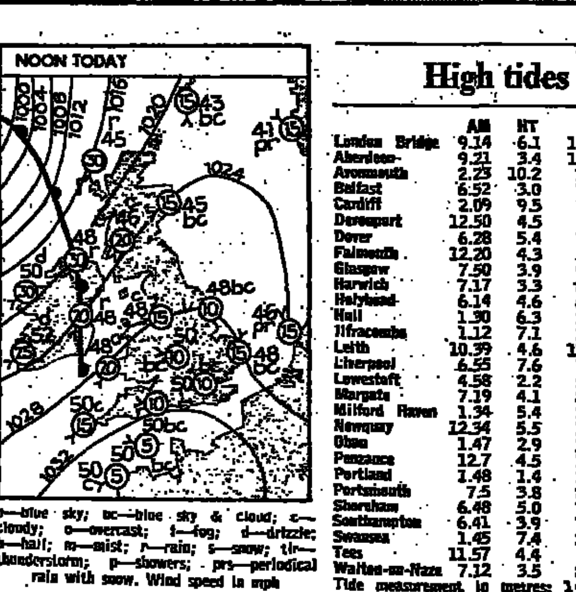
Highest day temp: Torquay, Southsea 12C (54F). Lowest day max: Lerwick 4C (39F). Highest rainfall: Finningley 0.56in. Highest sunshine: Glasgow 9.3hr.

Satellite predictions

Figures give time of visibility, where rising, maximum elevation, and direction of setting. Asterisk denotes entering or leaving eclipse.

MANCHESTER: Cosmos 1521R: (March 6) 5.27-5.28; SW*; 15SW; SSW. Cosmos 220R: (March 6) 5.33-5.35; ESE; 10E; E. Cosmos 1310R: 19.55-19.59; WNW; 35SW; SSW*. Cosmos 956R: 19.19-19.22; W; 20NW; NNW. Aryabhata R: 19.41-19.45; W; 40SSW; SSE*. Seasat: 19.4-19.12; NNE; 30NW; W and (March 6) 0.0-0.1; N*15N; NNW.





b—blue sky; bc—blue sky & cloud; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; prs—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	9.14	6.1	10.02	6.1
Aberdeen	9.21	3.4	10.04	3.6
Avonmouth	2.23	10.2	3.14	10.4
Belfast	6.52	3.0	7.42	3.0
Cardiff	2.09	9.5	3.01	9.7
Devonport	12.50	4.5	1.49	4.3
Dover	6.28	5.4	7.23	5.4
Falmouth	12.20	4.3	1.19	4.1
Glasgow	7.50	3.9	9.29	3.9
Harwich	7.17	3.3	8.07	3.2
Holyhead	6.14	4.6	6.57	4.7
Hull	1.30	6.3	2.23	6.1
Ilfracombe	1.12	7.1	2.08	7.2
Leith	10.39	4.6	11.12	4.8
Liverpool	6.55	7.6	7.38	7.8
Lowestoft	4.58	2.2	5.40	2.0
Margate	7.19	4.1	8.08	4.0
Milford Haven	1.34	5.4	2.23	5.5
Newquay	12.34	5.5	1.22	5.6
Oban	1.47	2.9	3.03	3.1
Penzance	12.7	4.5	1.02	4.3
Portland	1.48	1.4	2.52	1.3
Portsmouth	7.5	3.8	8.02	3.8
Shoreham	6.48	5.0	7.41	5.0
Southampton	6.41	3.9	7.34	4.0
Swansea	1.45	7.4	2.34	7.5
Tees	11.57	4.4		
Walton-on-Naze	7.12	3.5	8.02	3.5

Tide measurement in metres: 1=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F	
Scarborough	4.6	.03	8	46	Sun ints	Eskdalemuir	5.5	.17	9	48	Sun pds
Bridlington	4.1	.03	8	46	Sun ints	Prestwick	7.6	.05	9	48	Sun pds
Cromer	—	.05	6	43	Rain am	Abbotsinch	9.3	—	10	50	Sunny
Lowestoft	—	.02	7	45	Rain am	Tiree	7.5	.09	9	48	Sun pds
Clacton	3.9	.05	9	48	Rain pm	Stornoway	7.7	.02	8	46	Showers
Thanet	4.1	—	8	46	Sun ints	Lerwick	5.6	.01	4	39	Hail am
Folkestone	5.8	—	10	50	Sun pds	Wick	7.0	.03	7	45	Hail pm
Hastings	6.6	—	11	52	Sun pds	Kinloss	3.4	.06	8	46	Hail pm
Eastbourne	8.6	—	10	50	Sunny	Dyce	6.9	.03	8	46	Shwr pm
Aldergrove	6.2	.07	9	48	Rain am	Leuchars	8.6	—	9	48	Sunny

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sl, sleet; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	f	15	59	Chicago				Los Angeles				Riyadh	c	19	66
Akrotiri	f	18	64	Cologne	c	9	48	Luxembourg	c	7	45	Rio de Janeiro			
Alexandria				Copenhagen	r	4	39	Madrid	s	12	54	Salzburg	c	7	45
Algiers	s	23	73	Corfu	s	18	64	Majorca	s	19	66	San Francisco			
Amsterdam	r	5	41	Dublin	c	7	45	Malaga	s	19	66	Santiago			
Athens	c	13	55	Dubrovnik	s	14	57	Malta	s	16	61	Seoul	r	3	37
Bahrain	f	20	68	Faro	s	17	63	Miami				Singapore			
Barbados				Florence	s	13	55	Milan	c	8	46	Stockholm	c	5	41
Barcelona	c	14	57	Frankfurt	r	8	46	Montreal				Strasbourg	c	7	45
Beirut	s	18	64	Funchal	c	17	63	Moscow	sl	3	37	Sydney			
Belgrade	s	13	55	Geneva	r	5	41	Munich	r	4	39	Tangier	f	17	63
Berlin	r	9	48	Gibraltar	s	18	64	Nairobi	s	30	86	Tehran			
Bermuda				Helsinki	c	1	34	Naples	f	14	57	Tel Aviv	s	19	66
Biarritz	c	11	52	Hongkong	c	19	66	New York				Tenerife	s	20	68
Boulogne	f	8	46	Innsbruck	s	9	48	Nice	c	13	55	Tunis	s	18	64
Bordeaux	f	12	54	Jeddah	c	25	77	Oslo	f	2	36	Valencia	f	20	68
Brussels	f	9	48	Jo'burg	c	23	73	Paris	c	9	48	Venice	c	10	50
Budapest	s	11	52	Las Palmas	f	20	68	Prague	f	8	46	Vienna	s	9	48
Cairo	s	22	72	Lisbon	s	13	55	Reykjavik	c	2	36	Warsaw	f	7	45
Casablanca	f	18	64	Locarno	s	9	48	Rhodes	c	15	59	Zurich	r	3	37



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